

# MEMOIRS OF SECRET SERVICE.

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By MATTHEW SMITH  
of the *Inner-Temple*, Esq.

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To which is added, by way of APPENDIX,  
The D. of S—'s Letter to the  
House of Lords :

With Remarks thereupon.

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L O N D O N,

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# MEMORANDUM

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

FOR THE RECORD

FOR THE RECORD

OF THE ARMY

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OF THE ARMY

OF THE ARMY

TO  
The Honourable  
THE  
House of Commons  
Assembled in Parliament,  
Some *Memoirs* of Secret Service  
humbly offer'd

By MATTHEW SMITH  
of the *Inner-Temple*, Esq.



TO

The Honorable

THE

House of Commons

Assembled in Parliament

Some Members of the Council

of the City of London

WILLIAM LUTHER SMITH

of the City of London

# The Preface.

**I**T is not without the last reluctance, that I resolve to publish these Papers, or rather should have said, I am oblig'd to it by the utmost Necessity. It may happen to many to have their Services not rewarded; but my Case is particular, who am reduced to the unhappy necessity of defending them.

I shall say the less upon this Occasion, for if the Matters of Fact I alledg do not carry Conviction with them, I have little to expect; and I only venture to publish 'em, because notorious Truths must prevail at this time in my favour, or I must for ever despair: And no worse Fate can be procured me by those I may displease than Starving, which is almost my present condition.

Whether I deserve the Usage I have met with; whether such kind of Services as mine were ever neglected in any other Age, I must leave to the judgment of those who will read these Papers, and satisfy themselves about them: Which when I presume to address to the Grand Inquest of the Nation, to the Honourable Representatives of the whole People, I am not insensible of the Fate I must expect, if it is not sufficiently manifest I deserve their Favour and Protection.

Some few things I must of necessity premise of my self, and my Circumstances, that what follows



*may the better be understood. I had the honour to command the Company that did duty at Windsor-Castle when his Majesty came thither upon the Revolution. The Duke of Norfolk, whose Zeal sufficiently appear'd on that occasion, and to whom I ow'd my Employment, had he not been sufficiently secure of my Inclination and Fidelity, would never have suffer'd me in that Post. I lost not my Commission because I was unwilling to serve the King and this Government; but when it was taken from me, I was the less surpriz'd at my ill Fortune, Sir William Parkyns being my Uncle, and some of my Relations Roman Catholics, tho I was ever bred a Protestant: yet I own I had some Resentment too natural to those that are disappointed; and my Disgrace, and other Circumstances, brought me into a Confidence and Greatness with the disaffected Party. But when I found that King James's Interests were no way to be supported but by Invasions from the French, and by Assassinations upon the King, my Duty to my Country, my Religion, and the horror of such Attempts, made me resolve, as much as in me lay, to disappoint such damnable Designs.*

*I do not pretend to so little Self-Interest, but that I own I was pleased with the hopes of making my Fortune, when at the same time I was endeavouring to save my King and Country, which made me ready to lay out much of my little Stock to enable me to perform such a Service.*

*That such Services have been accounted National,*

tional, and publickly rewarded, every one knows who have read any thing of *Antient or Modern History*. I shall instance but in two of the many Examples that might be given in all Ages and Governments. Immediately after the expulsion of Tarquin, whose insupportable Arrogance and Cruelty had justly thrown him out of Rome, several hot-headed Noblemen endeavour'd to restore their late abdicated Prince: These Designs were happily detected by a Slave, the Conspirators were brought to condign Punishment; and how the Discoverer was recompens'd Livy informs us, Lib.2. *Secundum poenam nocentium, ut in utramque partem arcendis sceleribus exemplum Nobile esset, præmium indici, pecunia ex ærario, Libertas & Civitas data: that is, next to the care they took in punishing the Criminals as they deserv'd, that they might secure themselves from any such Attempt for the future, and give an eminent Instance that they knew how to reward, as well as to punish, they immediately decreed to the Discoverer, a Gratuity out of the publick Treasury, and gave him, with his Liberty, the Freedom of the City. Which last was the greatest Complement the Romans could bestow, since Kings, and Crowned Heads, who deserv'd well of the Republick, receiv'd it as the highest Favour. Thus we see what Measures the Romans (the best Judges of true Honour and Policy) took upon these Occasions. But of more weight are Examples from Sacred Writ; and I shall only desire the*



*the Reader to consider, whether Mordecai did not deserve the noble Reward Ahasuerus gave him.*

*I will leave it to any impartial Reader, who consults the following Memoirs, to judg whether the Discoveries made by me, have not been the most early and ample, both as to the Assassination and intended Invasion. I scorn to lessen the Services of others, and 'tis below me to envy the Advantages they have reaped by them: but I'll be bold to say, That a more perfect discovery of a Design of this nature was never yet made in the World. Now that my Letters, and the Dates of them are Authentick, I suppose no rational Man will doubt, when he is inform'd they were long since sealed up, and left in Sir William Trumbull's Custody; when he is inform'd that the Originals lodg'd in the House of Peers by their Order, are in the Duke of Shrewsbury's and Secretary Vernon's own hands, and given in upon Oath. But however I refer my self as to that matter, to his Grace of Shrewsbury's own Letter upon that occasion read in the House of Lords.*

*If my unlucky Stars have carried my Discoveries too far, (at least in the opinion of some People) I have this to say, 'twas wholly owing to accident: If they prove of use to the Publick, I claim no Merit, and I am sure I deserve no blame, for what I could not either help or prevent. I was brought in Custody to the House of Lords, when scarce any knew my Lodging but my Lord Portland,*

or Sir William Trumbull, and examined upon Oath. My Caution and Reserve was sufficiently apparent to every body; and those that press'd me so far, and made it impossible for me to conceal those Transactions that I never intended to publish, knew best whether they serv'd the Publick, or their Friends. Had there been any Objections to be made to me, I leave the World to judge what Fate I had met with; I think I may say it was a Season of Severity, or at least of strict Justice: And those that might be offended with me at that time, wanted not Power to have me exposed. But there being no room for that, the next thing was to have me ridicul'd for a silly meddling Fellow, who pick'd up Scraps of Coffee-house Intelligence, who was only fed with Stories that one Hewet affirm'd he took out of publick Prints to furnish me withal. Now supposing this to be the Case, I had some little Ability, or much good Luck, to be able, for so many months together, to impose such Trifles upon the Duke of Shrewsbury, and the now Secretary Vernon, to have so many of their Letters in return of mine, to have had so often Sums of Money from them, tho I confess in no proportion to the important Occasions for which I desired them. Neither is it less extraordinary, that the then Earl of Monmouth, and Secretary Trumbull, should not have discovered in so long a time the weak side of a Man so ridiculous, who dealt in such idle Tales. But above all my good Fortune was the greatest, when



*when my Lord Portland was pleased to give me a Present in Money from the King, and assurances of Favour and Protection, after his Majesty had given an Audience and Reception, which I must confess was above any Merit I can pretend to; and which, to say no more, so discerning a Prince would not have bestow'd on a mere Trifler.*

*It may farther be thought, that I am not altogether that Trifler, if it be consider'd that in December 1694. I discover'd where a quantity of Arms were conceal'd in Sir William Parkyns's House in Warwickshire, whilst the Lancashire Plot was under examination in the Parliament, which were not thought fit to be seized, tho often urged, until they were actually convey'd from the place where I first discover'd them, and hid underground. Which Arms remain as an Evidence of my said Discovery in a place in the Tower to this day: As also the Dyes of the Tower, which were convey'd away by Hewet and others, by the help of Mr. Roetier, and which were at Mr. Vernon's House on Sunday the 19th of January 1695. discover'd by me in order to prevent the same, of which upon after-examination I believe the Earl of Peterborough and Secretary Trumbull will do me right. All which I hope leave room to believe I did merit something better from the Government than to be thought a Trifler.*

*I know my own Imperfections, and confess I had not Confidence or Ability enough to keep me from the highest surprize, when I was brought in custody*

dy to the House of Lords, without having had the least intimation from any Person whatsoever of what might be the occasion of it; and my surprize was the more increased, when I found afterwards that I could have no access to the Earl of Portland, the then Earl of Monmouth, or Secretary Trumbull, and yet nothing laid to my charge that could forfeit me an Honour I had so often had. But I was not long without some apprehensions of my Case, when waiting afterwards upon the Earl of Monmouth at the Tower, he at my coming into the Room seem'd uneasy, and immediately call'd in the Warder, but very civilly told me, 'twas not to affront me, or from any ill Opinion conceiv'd of me that he took that measure, but that he thought it best for himself and me to have no further Conversation, injoining me to trouble him no more with publick Matters, which he would not concern himself withal, nor to visit him upon any other Occasion; which Commands I have very submissively observ'd ever since. I was the more surpriz'd at the like coldness from Sir William Trumbull, because he was in a publick Character. However I shall not complain of what I may think some Hardships from these Noble Persons, who I do not doubt will do me Justice when there is occasion, since Truth is all I ask. But be it as my Enemies would have it, my weakness and insufficiency shall be acknowledg'd by my self; yet I hope it will never be imputed to me as a Crime, that in the present miserable posture of my Affairs,  
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*I humbly refer my self, and my unfortunate Circumstances, to the impartial Judgment of the Honourable House of Commons.*

*Tho I am ready to confess my self a weak Man, I shall defend my self from having committed Actions below a Gentleman, and only beg leave to say one word upon this Subject, which I think may be sufficient to convince the World upon what foot I serv'd the Government, viz. That it was from a Principle that I did it, like a Gentleman as I was born and bred; and that Monies and Profit were not my only Motives. After the thousand Pound a Head Reward was set upon the Conspirators, Holms, whose Name was in the Proclamation, lay one night with me in my own Lodgings; yet because I might the better enable my self to countermine all their Projects, and consequently be more capable of serving my Country, and to avoid the ungrateful appearance of betraying any body for Money, I let him go out of the House when he was otherwise sufficiently look'd after: My management in this particular was approv'd by a Minister of State. Thus I let a certain Reward slip out of my hands on a point of Honour and Zeal for the Service of the Government. And I would desire no better an issue for me, than to have it judg'd by the Honourable House of Commons, upon what I can lay before them, Whether it were not feizable for me to have secured the Rewards of seizing ten of them as well as one, as much a Fool as some have endeavour'd*



deavour'd to represent me? Perhaps many may think I my self gave the greatest proof of it in this Instance; 10000 l. were a good Stake for a Man who had liv'd so long upon bare Promises: I thought it a little hard I confess, for one who had dealt thus with the Government, to have no other Recompence, than to be brought to the Bar of the House of Lords in custody, and confronted there with Hewet at liberty, who was Nephew to Holms one of the principal Assassimators, and himself had been secured for Treason; and that such a Person should have been question'd upon Oath in Matters relating to me, which if he had owned the Truth, he must have been his own Accuser.

After all this, when it shall appear by some Matters of Fact that I shall afterwards give an account of, that the greatest Sums of Money I ever receiv'd at any time, have been given me since all these Transactions, and under pretence of my serving the Publick with Intelligence; to some I conceive it will appear extraordinary, that the disbanded Fool, made incapable by themselves, should be again taken into Service: but of this the Reader must suspend his Judgment till I have laid before him the Matters of Fact.

Before I proceed to them, there remains only this one Point, and that is, to justify my Behaviour to so near a Relation engag'd in those Plots I was endeavouring to detect. I solemnly protest, nothing was wanting in me to dissuade Sir William



liam Parkyns from the wrong ways in which I saw him imbark'd, and what I affirm I can give the World sufficient proofs of. But he was so fond of the preceding Measures of the Compounding Party, and had so deeply engag'd in them, that he thought it not safe to retreat; and so was drawn, contrary to his Inclinations, into Undertakings more violent and dangerous. I was intrusted and employ'd by him in the Settlement of his Estate and Concerns. And the greatest disappointment I had, in not having that Justice done me to the King, of letting him know that I was the first Discoverer of the Plot, was the being prevented from making my humble Request to his Majesty for my Uncle's Life, which I think would hardly have been refused to my Service. And this Matter of Fact I am oblig'd to mention for my own justification, that having intimation he might have been wrought up to a Confession, I press'd Mr. Secretary Vernon to procure me an admission to him, which could not be obtained.

Before I conclude this Address, which I have made as short as possibly I could, I must beg leave to make one Remark upon R. K. Author of a late Book intitled, A true History of the several Designs and Conspiracies, from the Year 1688, to 1697. He pretends, pag. 187. That the Discoverers peremptorily refusing to name the Conspirators, might have been of fatal Consequence, if the Earl of Portland had not found

found out the happy Expedient to prevent it, by persuading his Majesty to give himself the trouble of examining Mr. Pendergrafs and Mr. De la Rue himself in his Closet. And this was on the 21st of February, 1695. in the Evening. Whereas the Reader will find by the following Letters, that I gave notice of that barbarous Design against his Majesty's Life, on the 5th of January 95. and on the 10th of February 95. and personally told a Great Minister in the Government of the said Design, and then gave him the Names of two of the principal Conspirators, viz. Sir George Barclay, and Major Holmes; and a full Account a few days after, with many of the Conspirators Names, as appears by the Letters dated the 14th and 19th of the said Month 1695. those Letters containing a more full and ample Account of that barbarous Design than any yet extant. I am only now relating Matters of Fact, without pretending to draw Inferences; yet in my poor Opinion I may venture to say, there never was so clear a Discovery as I made of so dark a Design, since I discovered the Plot, the Names of many of the Actors in it, the place where, and manner how it was to be put in execution, and offer'd at a very reasonable and small Expence, to deliver all the Conspirators in the very Fact, safely into the hands of the Government. Those that consider this, and the fatal Consequences the Doctor speaks of, that the Discoverers refused peremptorily to name the Conspirators,

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*spirators, may justly wonder that I was never sent for upon that Occasion, either to the King, or Cabinet; and maybe more surprized perhaps when they'r informed, that for near a Year after I could not be introduced to his Majesty, tho applying my self for that purpose to the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Peterborough, and Sir William Trumbull. Their Wonder may yet increase when they consider, that after I was once admitted into his Majesty's Presence, I was yet unfortunate enough to lose all my Hopes, grounded upon repeated promises of Protection and Reward, and found my self in a moment abandon'd by all, and as if there had been Incantment in the Case, everybody shunning me, and no body giving me the Reason why. Yet after all, there is this further occasion of Wonder in my unfortunate Circumstances, that I should be again imploy'd in the same sort of Service, by I know not who; and receiving Money I know not whence, should be almost reduced to a willingness to have taken Transportation for my Reward; and yet am returned again, and forced to give this sad and extraordinary Account of my Misfortunes and Services.*

*But these are Riddles I must leave to others to unfold: My humble Request is only, that the Honourable House of Commons would be pleased to consider, Whether my Services deserve Reward and Countenance, or Starving and Disgrace.*

# INTRODUCTION

## TO THE

### MEMOIRS.

**A**LL that passed between the D— of *Shr-sb-ry*, Mr. Secretary *V-rn-n*, and my self, make the Body of the following *Memoirs*. And if any of my Letters which I pretend, and will prove to have been delivered, be disputed, I only desire the favour to have those Papers of mine produced, which occasion'd those Answers that are under their own hands. I hope Necessity will plead my excuse to those other Persons of Quality whose Names I shall be obliged to mention. I will take care to do nobody wrong; and since after so long a time I can get no admission to any of them, they will, I hope, allow me the liberty of speaking Truth.

The Duke of *Norfolk* was the first Person to whom I communicated any of the Proceedings between the D— of *Shr-sb-ry*, and my self. His Grace receiv'd me with his accustomed Goodness, but he was often out of Town: So being put off with Excuses from the Secretaries Office, to near the time of the King's

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depar-



departure for *Holland*, in the Year 1696. I went to *Kensington*, and resolved to seek some opportunity of speaking to his Majesty myself. When I came thither, I was inform'd the then Earl of *Monmouth* was in waiting; and to him I address'd my self, tho wholly unknown to him, and only spoke to him in general terms. His Lordship, as is usual, was referring me to some other; but when I told him in short what I had to say related to the Safety of his Majesty's Person and Government, upon that he was pleased to tell me, he would inform the King of my Name, and of my Business. The Earl after some time let me know, that he could not procure me access to the King; that I must see to gain admittance, if my Affair was so pressing, by my Lord *Albermarle* that is now, or by the Closet-keeper: but that if I could not, the King had order'd him, if my Business prov'd of Consequence, to carry me to Sir *William Trumbull*. I could by no means speak to the King before his departure. Sometime after the said Earl, now Earl of *Peterborough*, having read a second time my *Memoirs* and *Letters*, introduced me to Sir *William Trumbull*; 'twas about the latter end of *May* 1696. At this meeting I shew'd Sir *William Trumbull*, then one of his Majesty's Secretaries of State, my *Letters* and *Minutes*, with the D— of *Shr-sb-ry's*, and Mr. Secretary *V-rn-n's* Answers

swers to them. He much wonder'd that the King was not made acquainted with my Services, himself not having heard the least mention of them. My Papers being loose, I transcribed them in a Book, according to the Series of Time, (by the way, my Lord Chancellor did me the honour to read great part of my *Letters* and *Minutes*, before they were transcribed in a Book; and they gave him that satisfaction, that he wonder'd I was not made known to the King) and did deliver into Sir *W. Trumbull's* hand, that Book of my Correspondence with his Gr-*ce* the D— of *Sbr-sb-ry*, together with the Original *Letters* and *Minutes* thereunto belonging. These being the proof of the Truth of my Correspondence, and undeniable Demonstration of the reality of my past Services, were sealed up in two parcels, and deliver'd in the presence of the said Earl. The Intention and Design of delivering up the said Original Papers into the Secretary's hand, was not only to prove the truth of my Book, but to secure them from any Attempt.

When his Majesty came from *Flanders*, I then prest the Earl of *Monmouth*, and Sir *William*, to procure my admittance to the King. It was so long before Sir *W. Trumbull* did procure that Honour, that I had often resolved to lay my *Memoirs* before the *House of Commons*. But to my great misfortune I was ever dissuad-



ed by the Earl of *Monmouth* from so doing. At last, when just despairing of ever being admitted to an Audience of his Majesty, I received this following Letter from Sir *William Trumbull*.

Sunday Night at 12.

S I R,  
**T**HE King commands me to send you word, that if you will go to my Lord Portland's to morrow in the Evening, at seven of the Clock, he will bring you to speak with the King. I am,

S I R,

9-Nov. 96.

Your most humble Servant,

Will. Trumbull.

On *Monday*, the next day, in obedience to Command, I went to *Kensington*, and was introduced into his Majesty's Presence by the Earl of *Portland*. I humbly presented to the King a Book of my Correspondence, and went away fully satisfy'd with the Honour I had had, and the belief that his Majesty was sensible of the Truth and Greatness of my Services.

Within two or three days after I attended Sir *W. Trumbull*, to know whether he had yet receiv'd any Commands for me. He then  
 \* told

told me, before the Earl of *Monmouth*, that his Majesty was very well satisfy'd with the Accounts I had given him, and that it was a very full and early discovery of the Plot: That his Majesty had commanded him to enquire what I most liked, Whether to serve in the Army, or in any other Imployment? He told me some Money would be ordered me for the present; but Money being scarce at that time, a little must serve me till more came in. I gave the Secretary answer to his Majesty's Command, that I was willing to serve the King in any Character he was pleased to appoint. The Secretary was pleased to tell me, that my Service in the same way for some time longer would be acceptable. I reply'd, I was willing to do my endeavours any way that might serve his Majesty; and from that time receiv'd Sir *W. Trumbull's* Commands, which I executed to the best of my Power. Soon after I receiv'd the following Letter from Sir *William Trumbull*.

*Monday morning, Nov. 16. 1696.*

S I R,  
**Y**OU are desired to go to my Lord Portland's Lodgings at Kensington this Evening.

S I R, Your most humble Servant,  
 Will. Trumbull.



In obedience to the foresaid Order, I went in the Evening to *Kensington*, and then his Lordship was pleased to give me fifty *Guineas* roll'd up in a piece of Paper. Sir *William* afterwards was pleased to tell me, that Money was scarce at that time ; but when the *Funds* were settled, his Majesty would reward me well for my past Services.

Friday Noon.

S I R,

**I** Have been very ill ever since I saw you, but my want of Health shall not hinder me from speaking with you, if you will call at my House, either this night at eight of the Clock, or to morrow at the same hour. I am,

S I R,

Your most humble Servant,

Will. Trumbull.

My Debts being uneasy to me, I was forced to confes to Sir *W. Trumbull*, I was afraid of being arrested. He promised to consult with my Lord *Portland* the most proper way to get me a Protection. Upon which account I some little time after receiv'd this Letter.

\*

Monday

Monday Morning.

S I R,

**M**<sup>T</sup> Lord Portland, into whose hands I put your Paper for a Protection, desires to speak with you when you can conveniently.

In the Evening I went to *Kensington* to wait on my Lord *Portland*, who receiv'd me with his usual Civility, and told me, I should have a further supply of Money in a few days.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> of *January* 1697. I was surpriz'd by an Attachment from the Lords, and forc'd to appear in their House. I was altogether ignorant of the Reasons that induc'd them to seize me. When I was brought to the Bar of their House, I was examined on several Questions relating to the Earl of *Monmouth*, the Dutcheſs of *Norfolk*, and the Lady *Mary Fenwick*, about Affairs that I was no way privy to, and what is more, are yet a Secret to me. I never heard from the ſaid Earl any mention of thoſe Ladies Names, upon any other occaſion, than his Lordſhip's deſiring me to change my Lodgings, leſt the Dutcheſs of *Norfolk* ſhould force me to diſcover my ſelf, and my Correſpondences, ſhe having had ſome Informations of my Intelligence from ſome of her Huſband's the Duke of *Norfolk*'s Family ; and this was ſome Months before his Lord-



Lordship's Controversy with the said Dutchess in that House. But among the many Questions that arose, my Original Papers which were sealed up, and left with Sir *William Trumbull*, being brought by him in the same form I left them in his hands, and broke open in the *House of Lords*, I could not avoid (being upon Oath) to discover a Correspondence that had pass'd between a Great Minister and my self. That Honourable House cannot but remember, I answer'd their Questions with all the submission and profound respect it was possible for me to express in relation to that Noble Peer. I said nothing but what I could not avoid: And I am sure no reasonable Man will think me guilty of so much folly, as to believe that I had any Design to accuse any Person, or that I would destroy my blooming Hopes; for under the Circumstances I then lay, 'twas not my Interest to oppose in the least the Dispositions of the Court.

After I had been in the *House of Lords*, tho without my consent or knowledg, I soon perceived my unlucky Fate, and was presently commanded not to appear at Court. I waited on Sir *William Trumbull* to know the Reason why I was under Displeasure; desiring I might justify my self, by answering any Allegations that might be justly laid to my Charge. Sir *William* seem'd concern'd, for  
he

he well knew I had done nothing but what I could not avoid ; but he did not direct me how I might be redressed. I retired into the Country ; and the Winter following when I came to Town, I made my Applications to a new Friend, for my old ones had forsaken me, and lodg'd a Petition in his hands ; who commiserating my Condition, promised to serve me to the utmost of his Power. After a Month's attendance my Friend told me, that my Service would be well accepted, if I would go abroad and transmit from thence a weekly Account of what occur'd amongst the Secret Enemies, who were obliged to withdraw, in pursuance to the *Act of Parliament*. I was surpriz'd at the Overture, having been so long laid aside, and was very desirous to know who the Person was that would engage my Service ; but was assured it was a Secret : however if I would undertake the Business, I should have a monthly Pension punctually paid me, and a Sum of Money immediately order'd to equip my self in order to my Voyage ; and that he would stand engag'd for the due Remittance and monthly Pension agreed on, which was to commence from the time I went from *England*. In my Circumstances I would have engag'd upon worse Terms for an *East-India* Voyage, being promised, for my further encouragement, that I should be rewarded for my former Services. Which made me  
hope



hope I was to be remember'd abroad, when forgot at home. On *January 30. 1697*. I receiv'd fifty Pounds, and a little time after the like Sum. When I had prepar'd what was necessary for my Voyage, I receiv'd a Pass for my further Security. After some little time my ill Fate pursued me beyond the Seas, and I receiv'd only flattering Letters, which fed me with Hopes instead of Supplies. But my Friend was too sincere to deceive me longer than he was deceived; and I soon received this mortifying Letter from him, which began thus; *The inclosed declares your Doom, &c.* The other runs in this Stile, *I have receiv'd yours of the 18th, the 22d, and 25th, and have shew'd them to your Parents. I have been by them washed with Holy Water, and kept on the Rack from day to day; for daily Hope, Expectation and Fear is so to me.* And so concludes in a sorrowful manner, for having engag'd upon those Terms upon which I went abroad, confessing that he had been deceiv'd and abused by those Persons who authorized him to engage my Service; therefore desired me to make a speedy return into *England*.

The Reader may be surpriz'd at this Passage, and wonder who those Persons were that so barbarously used my Friend and me. I can assure him that is a Secret my Friend has not yet revealed. What my Thoughts are on the matter, and the Design of sending me  
out

out of *England*, I will keep to my self, lest by divulging of them I may mistake. According to the Advice I receiv'd from my Friend, I immediately return'd into *England*, and waited on the Gentleman from whom I had the Pass, and the hundred Pounds, to know the Reasons why I was so used, and who the Persons were that thus waver'd in their Resolutions. He told me that was a Secret he must keep, and very much excused himself for having engag'd me in so much trouble and danger. This was all the Satisfaction I had from him, and all the Satisfaction I can give to others.

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MEMOIRS

## M E M O I R S

O F

## Secret Service.

*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**T**H A T upon consideration of the *Designs* which are forming against the Government, and the *Honour* I have had to serve their Majesties, I cannot but make known to your Gr-ce what hath come to my knowledg concerning the said *Designs* : As also how I may be made capable to serve their Majesties, by giving to your Gr-ce a *constant* Intelligence of what *Instructions* are at any time hereafter sent from abroad, which are to be communicated to the *Jacobite* Party here, by which they are to take their Measures.

Provided it may not be *known* from whom the Intelligence comes, and not to make use of me at any time as an *Evidence* ; to have liberty to speak *freely*, without any hazard or danger to my self, and to have a *Provision* made for me. This must be done with the  
greatest



greatest *secrecy*, by reason I am generally *known*, and the Party have their *Spies* in all places to give them notice. My coming to Town must likewise be *private*. If there is any thing in this Letter that is improper or offensive, I do most humbly beg pardon, and I assure your Gr-ce it is not *knowingly*, or for want of *Zeal* for their Majesties Service ; for I will always be ready to *obey* your Gr-ce's *Commands* in any thing, wherein I may shew my self to be their Majesties most *dutiful* and *loyal* Subject. Your Gr-ce's generous *Disposition*, and great *Care* for the Good and Welfare of the Government, and place of great Trust, have obliged me to apply my self to your Gr-ce, who am, in all humility,

Nov. the ,  
1694.

Your Gr-ce's

Most, &c.

*The Bearer is my Servant, and one I can trust to bring any Message to me that your Gr-ce pleaseth.*

The Answer to this Letter, was to make my self known to the D— by some Friend, or further to explain my self by Letter.

*May*

*May it please your Gr-ce;*

**I**N obedience to your Gr-ce's Command, of making my self known by some Person, or further explaining my self by Letter; I once more presume to write, and most humbly beg pardon for my last, for not having made my self known before by a Friend. I hope it will be excus'd, since it proceeded wholly from my Zeal for their Majesties Service, and from the fear I was in, that what I can do, (which I doubt not but will be an acceptable Service) and may hereafter be made capable of doing, might take Air by being communicated to a third, and so be a means to prevent the Service I hope to compleat to satisfaction.

As to my self, I am of the *Inner-Temple*, and have been *Comptroler* of that Society. I had the Command of an Independent Company in *Windsor-Castle*, and commanded there all the time of his Majesties being at *Windsor* when he first came into *England*. Upon the Order of disbanding Independent Companies, I receiv'd a Commission in the Duke of *Norfolk's* Regiment, and I rais'd a Company, (the Commission was signed by your Gr-ce.) Upon the Army's going to *Ireland*, several Officers in the Duke's, and in other Regiments, were dismiss'd, and I was one of the said Officers; the Reason I know not, except for having been a Captain

C

in



in the late King's time. The Duke was dissatisfy'd at it, I having put my self to a great expence for that Expedition; and ever since I have follow'd my own Concerns.

By what means I have come to the knowledg of the Affairs of the *Discontented* Party, and how I may be serviceable for the future, (being confident no Orders or Directions from abroad can escape my knowledg, if I apply my self to it) the Particulars are too tedious to trouble your Gr-ce with in a Letter, and I am already fearful that I have too much trespass'd upon your Gr-ce's Patience.

I am now in Town, but keep my self private; and I am ready to attend your Gr-ce's Commands, to do the utmost of my power for his Majesties Service. I once more most humbly beg that my Name may not be *known*, or made use of as an *Evidence*; and that I may speak *freely* without damage to my self. As to a *Provision* I mentioned in my last, I will wholly rely on your Gr-ce's *Favour* and *Recommendation* to the King, as your Gr-ce shall judg of my Service. Who am (though unknown)

Your Gr-ce's

Nov. 29. 94.

most, &c.

*If it is your Gr-ce's Pleasure that I should attend, I beg it may not be at the Office.*

The

The Answer was, That I should attend the D— at his own House on *Sunday*, being the 2d day of *December* 1694.

*The Minutes of the second of December 1694.*  
*with his Gr-ce the D— of S—.*

1. After my being admitted to his Gr-ce's Prefence, I gave him an Account of my being dismiss'd the King's Service ; that after this Application was made to me (having been a Captain in the late King's time) to enter into his Interest ; which I seemingly did, the better to enable my self to serve their present Majesties : That I gave out to the Party, that I look'd upon my self injur'd by being dismiss'd the King's Service without cause : That being Nephew to Sir *William Parkyns*, I had great Credit with the Party, and had always an Account from Sir *William*, and the Party, of the late King's Intentions ; and that I would communicate them from time to time to his Gr-ce.

2. That the late King intended to invade *England* as the last Spring ; but that a Difference happen'd between the *Jacobites* here, which arose upon the occasion of the last *Declaration*, by which the *Papists* were put out of hopes of Command, in case the late King should



be restor'd. That the said *Declaration* was obtain'd by a Party or Faction here call'd *Compounders*, who promised, upon the granting that *Declaration*, to restore the late King in a very short time. That the late King was very much averse to the signing it; that it was drawn here in *England*, and carried over by the Lord *Middleton*, who declared that upon the late King's laying aside the Lord *Melford*, and his consenting to the *Declaration*, the *Compounders* would perform their Promise. That the *Fr. ch* K. was wrought upon by the Interest the *Compounders* made with one of his Secretaries (who was a publick Enemy to the Lord *Melford*, and to his way of proceeding) to persuade the late King to sign that *Declaration*, it being against the late King's Inclination to do it.

3. That the *Compounders* made several Terms with the late King; and some of them were to be made *Trustees*, as they stil'd themselves, of the Nation, for the late King's performance of what he promised in that *Declaration*.

4. That upon this the *Jacobites* divided into Factions, the one stiled *Compounders*; the other Party, which are topping high-fliers, join'd with the Papists to have the late King restored without Terms, with Sword in hand, these are stil'd *Melfordians*.

5. That

5. That upon the *Compounders* failure of Promise, as to the time of restoring the late King, the late King took himself to be acquitted from standing to that *Declaration* comprised by them, and now doth hearken to the *Melfordians* ; and tho *Melford* is publicly laid aside, yet he still acts behind the Curtain, and nothing is valuable unless recommended first by him : And *Middleton* is but a colourable Secretary.

6. That this last Spring great Application was made to the late King to come over, who accordingly gave the *Melfordian* Faction great hopes. That the *Compounding* Party getting knowledg of it, labour'd to prevent it, (by reason their Measures were not fully concerted) and therefore sent to the Fr-ch K. to let him know, that it would be in vain to do it that Spring, by reason the Fleet here was in such a readiness, as that they could fit out Fifty eight Men of War in a Fortnight's time. So that Design went off, with a Promise to stir the Year after.

7. That when *Melford* seem'd to leave all Business, and to retire from the Court at St. *Germain's*, every one complemented and waited on him to his Coach, except my Lord *Griffin* and *David Lloyd*, they being great *Compounders*, and of *Middleton's* Faction.



8. That Sir *James Montgomery* was of the *Compounding* Party, and that they help'd him to make his escape; he being a timorous Man, they were fearful of his squeeking.

Giving this account of Affairs, and offering to his Gr-*ce* further satisfaction of my Inclination to serve their Majesties, I did then propose to get a Recommendation from his Grace the Duke of *Norfolk*. His Gr-*ce* was pleased to tell me, that I needed not *trouble* the Duke, and that he was well *satisfy'd* with me: And at that time employ'd me to enquire what a Character one Captain *S-and-rs-n*, Master of the King's Yacht, had in the Party, which I did not then know, but did enquire, and took his Name in writing.

I then told his Gr-*ce*, that the Party were very active in providing Arms; and that tho the *Lancashire* Gentlemen were well *got off* of their matter, yet I believ'd they were *provided*. After this I desired liberty to do and act as I found expedient, that I might the better discover the Intentions of the King's Enemies; which was *granted* me, and a *Promise* made that I should be *supported*, and that his Gr-*ce* would *acquaint* the King concerning me. I had liberty to write, and the D— also took a Note how to direct Letters to me.

*It is to be observed, that I always sent my Letters by one who also brought back the D— Letters to me.*

*May it please your Gr-ce;*

**W**HEN I had the honour to wait on your Gr-ce, you order'd me to write, and gave me leave to learn all that was possible of the Designs of their Majesties Enemies, and to give information thereof, as they came to my knowledg. In obedience to Command, I will let nothing of Consequence pass that may be of use. As the ready compliance of the *Parliament* with his Majesty's Demands, dejects the *Jacobites*, so it puts them the more upon exposing the Government in relation to the late Affair in *Lancashire*, thinking thereby to cover their Intentions, and make it appear, as much as possible, that tho they cannot take the Oaths to the Government, yet they do not make any Preparations, but live quietly and unconcerned: When at the same time I am assured, that they provide Arms as fast as they can conveniently, without being taken notice of, and that there are several Persons imploy'd to that intent.

Your Gr-ce's Promise, that I shall not be known or made use of as an *Evidence*, and be provided for, makes me the more industrious to find out at this juncture something of their



Preparations, which I doubt not but to effect in a short time; but I must take a Journey before I can bring it about, having a Project, by which I hope not to miss of my Design, of finding out where Arms are conceal'd. It cannot be expected I should be able to find out every one's Arms; to make a Discovery from one of Note, will be a sufficient Demonstration that the rest of the *Faction* are not unprovided.

This I am certain of, that for a *Business* of this *nature* to be discover'd during the Session of *Parliament*, will be a thorow *check* to all the *Designs* of the *Jacobites* for this Year, and I hope for ever; for by such a Discovery his Majesty may obtain what Act he pleaseth for his further security; and then the *Compound-ing* Party will be as zealous as any, that they may not be question'd. Tho I shall act this Affair as if from the Confession of others, yet I fear the Party will be jealous of me; and if they should be so, I must expect no more Promises of great Preferment from them, which has been intimated that I should have, as the command of a Regiment. But I hope, after the compleating such a Service, his Majesty will not let me be *exposed* to the contempt of his *Enemies*, by being left *unprovided* for.

I have put my self to a considerable Expence in coming to Town, and to fit my self to appear in Business; and I shall be at a much greater

greater in corresponding, and compleating this matter; and I must send for one to *Town* through whom I must act my part, but it must be unknown to him that I am upon any such Design. Therefore I do humbly beg your Gr-ce's Answer to this. I shall be with Dr. O— within a day or two; and perhaps I may learn something of Capt. *S-and-rs-n*. There shall not be any Money laid out by me, but what shall be very much for their Majesties Service, that I may deserve the Character of being

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

Dec. 11. 1694.

*A Copy of the D— of S— Letter, of his own hand-writing, in answer to the foresaid Letter.*

‘ **Y**OU may depend upon it, Sir, if you  
 ‘ can do the Government Service, not  
 ‘ only your *Expences shall be defray’d*, but your  
 ‘ self well rewarded and settled for the future.  
 ‘ Such a Discovery as you mention would be  
 ‘ of great Service.

‘ I think you had best appear here as seldom  
 ‘ as can be; and what you have to commu-  
 ‘ nicate will be better done by writing, unless  
 ‘ upon some extraordinary occasion.

Dec. 11. 94.

May



*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**A**S your *Reception* gave Vigour and Life to my undertaking this Service, so your Gr-ce's Letter doth *absolutely* confirm me ; for what can I desire more, than to be under your Gr-ce's Care and Protection? By the accomplishing the Discovery I mention'd in my last, I must of necessity create a great suspicion of my self, and consequently a great many Enemies. I have learned the Persons Names employ'd in *buying* up of Arms, and *sending* them into the Country ; and I have drawn *Interrogatories* to examine them apart, that it may put them in more consternation. I do therein use the Names of a Person or two pension'd from *France*, of whom the Party have had a jealousy of late as *Informers*. This method I hope will absolutely cover me from being *known*, and so put them into such a *distrac-tion*, that they shall not venture to trust one another hereafter, and consequently wholly confound their Designs.

As the division into Parties hath already created in the Fr-ch K. a slender opinion of the Power of the *Jacobites* here, so the discovery of Arms from a Person of Note, will put him out of hopes of any Insurrection here, which he very much drives at, for he would  
have

have the *Jacobites* do the work themselves: the Party have almost *tired* his patience; for I heard a Person of great Intelligence declare, that the Fr-ch K. should say of his Majesty, that so long as he managed and kept his Parliament as he now does, there was but little hopes; and that his Majesty did more with his Parliament than any of the former Kings could ever do.

I do assure your Gr-ce, that I shall be able in a short time to *compleat* the discovery of the Arms; but I must first take a considerable Journey to that intent, to learn the certain place where they lie concealed, which I cannot fail of; and upon my notice thereof, the Persons employ'd in buying up the Arms, must be taken up, that it may look as a Discovery from *them*. The manner and method how to deal with them, I have drawn up to present to your Gr-ce; and from the Country I will send Instructions for the Persons that are to come and seize the Arms.

If it is your Gr-ce's pleasure to have this dispatch'd, I will attend your Gr-ce in order to the execution of it, which I am certain of performing. I beg your Gr-ce will order me some Money, by reason I have not sufficient by me for the management of this Affair, and the Journey. It will



will be least suspected upon taking a Journey  
against *Christmass*. I am

Decemb. 15.  
1694.

Your Gr-ce's

most, &c.

*A Copy of the D— of S— Letter, in answer  
to the aforesaid Letter, (being of his own hand-  
writing.)*

S I R,

**T**H O I shall be willing to give all rea-  
sonable encouragement to your Endea-  
vours; yet it being the King's Money I am  
to dispose of, I cannot think my self dis-  
charged, if I advance any Money before I  
see some Service performed.

Dec. 15. 94.

*Upon receipt of the D— Letter  
I went to wait on his Gr-ce, but  
was told he was indisposed.*

May

*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**T**H E fear I am in that my last Letter was displeasing, hath so far affected me, that I can't be easy till I have obtain'd your pardon. I do assure your Gr-ce, that upon your intimating that such a Discovery would be esteemed a *Service*, and at this juncture be most *acceptable* ; I have labour'd with all the Industry that's possible to compleat it, and doubt not but to give your Gr-ce such satisfaction, that it will appear I have in a manner perform'd my Promise. This I may venture to affirm, by reason I have obtained the Persons Names concerned in buying the Arms, and sending them into the Country, and the Place where sent to. I have likewise drawn *Interrogatories* to examine them upon, which will much amaze the whole Party, and I hope will be a means to destroy all their Designs. I understand that at this Place there are very fine Arms for a Troop, by which it will appear that the Party are not so *unprovided* as they *pretend*. And had there been as *good* an Intelligence in *Lancashire*, I doubt not but the *like* would have appeared.

I would not have presumed to ask Money for a Journey, if I was not sure to find out the place in the House where the Arms are concealed, being very well acquainted at, and  
with



with the place. I cannot take any pleasure in a Journey this Season, but in the assurance of perfecting the Service I have begun, that thereby I may fully demonstrate my self to be their Majesties most loyal Subject, and

Decemb. 18.

1694.

Your Gr-ce's

most, &c.

I am extreamly troubled for your Gr-ce's Indisposition, when I was to wait on you; I am ready to attend your Gr-ce's Pleasure.

*My Servant brought in answer to the Letter, that the D— desired the Papers.*

*May it please your Gr-ce;*

**A**Ccording to command, I have sent the *Interrogatories*, to examine the Persons that were employ'd in buying the Arms, if you think convenient to take them up: And full Instructions for the seizing the Arms, which must be done out of hand. In humble submission to your Gr-ce's Judgment, I do think it will be convenient to order a Letter to Sir Richard Newdigate (a Justice of Peace within a mile of the place, a zealous Man for the Government, and one that loves to be em-

employ'd) to be assisting, that an exact account of the number of the Arms be returned, that they be not imbezeld by the Officer who is employ'd; and that this be done without any noise, or any thing relating to the House abused. The want of using this Conduct, made a great clamour in *Lancashire*, where they might have had Arms if the like care had been taken. I likewise think it may not be amiss, that the Persons employ'd to seize the Arms, may not open their Instructions until they come to *Sir Richard Newdigate*, and then not to be published until the Arms are seized: Affairs of this kind are often brought to nothing by taking air.

I hope your Gr-ce will not think the less of my Service, for being expeditious in it; this I am certain of, that tho this Affair hath been transacted with the greatest privacy, yet it will very much stick upon me, the Person being my Relation where the Arms are. I think I may venture to affirm, that it will be the *greatest Blow* the Party has yet receiv'd. But by my Service in this, I must lose all my Pretensions with the Faction, and create to myself many Enemies: Which I shall not value, since your Gr-ce has been pleased to express some Care for me. I am wishing your Gr-ce health,

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

Dec. 23. 1694.

The



The Bearer shall attend your Grace to morrow in the Afternoon, to know whether there needs any further directions from me in the Business.

*Interrogatories to examine Capt. Sc-dm-re and Mr. St-ples.*

**C**aptain *Sc-dm-re* was a Lieutenant in the Guards, and Mr. *John St-ples* is of the *Middle Temple* (they are Companions.) Captain *Sc-dm-re* is to be found at the *Rain-bow Coffee-house*; and Mr. *St-ples* at his Chamber in the *Middle Temple*.

To interrogate them.

*To be intimated as if the Tradesmen will appear to justify their buying these Arms.*

1. What they did with the Arms, (*viz.*) Swords bought of a Man in *Drury lane*, and other Sword-Cutlers, Pistols and Carbines of *Taylor*, and at Brokers Shops? How, and where disposed of? to what use they were bought? and whether they have yet received the Arms order'd to be made, and gather'd up by Brokers?

2. Whe-

2. Whether they are not daily with Capt. *Chernock*, alias *Robinson*, one of Colonel *Parker's* Captains? and at the Cabals at Taverns with Capt. *Porter*, *Goodman*, *Chernock*, &c.

*There is a Warrant now out against Chernock.*

3. Whether they are not acquainted with one Captain *St-vly*, alias *Wray*? He was a Captain in Ireland, and one employ'd from France to write News, and give an account of Affairs here: this Person they suspect to be an Informer; his Name must be much used, which will destroy his Intelligencing.

It may be of use to search *St-ples* Chamber; these two Persons being conversant in several Companies, will put their Party into a great Consternation.

It will not be convenient to take up these Persons, until the time is fixed to send for the Arms; and being immediately examined then, it will look as a Discovery from them: Which I am sure will put the Party into a great confusion, and absolutely destroy their Designs. These two being necessitous Men, and the Faction jealous, it will make them

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con-



conclude, that the Arms were discover'd by their Confession. They must be kept apart, and not admitted to write for some days, which will the more amuse the Party.

The Instructions for the seizing the Arms was not sent to his Gr-cc until the 25<sup>th</sup> of Decemb. 1694.

*May it please your Gr-cc ;*

**N**OW I have fully done my part in completing the Discovery I promised, by learning the certain place where the Arms are carried to, and the secret places in the House where concealed. I have also drawn such full Instructions for the Person whom your Gr-cc shall order to seize them, that there can be no miscarriage, if done in time : There is only one Servant in the House. This I am sure will be a demonstration, that the Faction are not, as they give out, *unprovided* : It may not be amiss to look to the *Gun-Smiths* and *Sword-Cutlers* hereafter. The Party do all that is possible to stifle their Actions from being discover'd, and would perswade the World, that tho they are *Jacobites*, yet they do not make the least preparation to disturb the Government, but live quietly and unconcern'd. This I presume will be the severest Check they have receiv'd, by reason it is a Demonstration to the

the contrary. I do humbly beg your Gr-*ce's* Pardon for so often troubling of you, and hope it will be imputed to my Zeal for their Majesties Service, and the ambition I have to be intitled

Your Grace's

*Decemb. 25.*

1694.

most, &c.

To go to *Marston Jabett* within five miles of *Coventry*, and two of *Nun-Eaton* (a Market Town) to Sir *William Parkyns's* House; there is only one Servant there.

To sear<sup>ch</sup> every Room in the House, but particularly two Garrets over the two Rooms, which you are to go up to by a stair-case in the Hall; and when you are in the Garret, to take notice of a stack of Chimnies that comes up into the first Garret of the two you come into. Between the said stack of Chimnies and the Tiles there is a very little space; if fill'd up with Tiles or Bricks, to remove them; if not so fill'd up, to lie down on the Floor and get some Instrument and lift up the Boards there; for between the Tunnels of the Chimnies and the Tiles is a Trap-door that goes down between the two Walls that part the Rooms underneath, and therein you will find the Arms.



If not all there, then to search a great plaister Room, and a Garner therein, over the Kitchen, and in the Hay in the Barns; and in one of the two Rooms to remove a great Press, if set before a Closet-door in the said Room, and the Boxes and Chests in both those, or any other Rooms.

If you find your Expectation answered between the Tunnels of the Chimnies in the Garret, by seeing or feeling Deal-boxes, then to cease to search further for that time; but leave a Guard at the place, and then search in other places: After so doing, then to search the same place over again, and there you will find the Arms, which will look as if no intimation had been given. To search the Ovens in the Kitchen, and look up every Chimny. In the Grounds there are eight or ten sizeable Horses: One fine Furniture in a Deal-box in one of the aforesaid Rooms.

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*A Copy of the D— of S— Letter of his own writing, in answer to the Letter with the Instructions.*

‘ **I** Desire to know what number of Arms  
‘ there are in the House; and if you have  
‘ good grounds to believe these are there;  
‘ likewise whether the Gentleman be a Papist,  
‘ a *Nonjuror*, or what he is.

*Dec. 27. 94.*

*May it please your Gr-ce;*

**I** Have been seemingly a *Jacobite*, but am really the contrary, otherwise I could never have div'd into their Secrets, and made any discovery of their Designs: I wish I was as fully assured where the rest of the Party's Arms are concealed, as I am of these which I have mention'd to your Gr-ce. As to the Number, there are Carbines, Pistols and Swords, sufficient for the equipping a Troop; and they are very fine Arms, and at the House I have mention'd I am most certain: I could wish I was as sure to command a Troop for his Majesty's Service. It's impossible there can be any disappointment if speedily seized, and my Instructions exactly observed. As I have already observed, it will plainly appear by this



Discovery, that the Party are not unprovided, the Person at whose House they are being too wise to provide alone. I would not, upon any account in the World, impose upon your Gr-*ce* a belief of an Uncertainty, the Consequence of which must be my Ruin on both sides; by pretending to give an Intelligence of things which are doubtful.

I could wish I were to be excused from giving a Character of the Person, it being not proper for me to do it, being too nearly related. He is no Papist, but I fear too much engag'd in their Interest. As to his being a *Non-juror* I do not know: He doth not go to Church, and refuses to act as a Justice of the Peace in his Country, and is under Indictments for not acting. He was near twenty Years a Six Clerk in *Chancery*, and sold his Place since this Government for 6500*l*. There are many of Quality of his Party, and no Man is in greater favour with the late King, and more likely to be great than himself if there should be a Change. I have had a great conflict within my self (in relation to this Affair since I have discovered these Arms) between my Affection to my Relation, and my Duty to my King and Country. The horror and destruction that will attend a Revolution, and my Duty to my King and Country have prevail'd over me. I receiv'd your Gr-*ce's* Letter, and had obey'd your Commands yesterday, but the

\*

trouble

trouble and concern I was in, for which every Loyal Subject and lover of his Country ought to \*lament, made me incapable of writing sooner.

\* *The Queen's dying.*

The great joy the Enemies of the Governmen have conceiv'd, for what every true *English* Man ought greatly to be concerned, cannot better be frustrated, than by a Discovery at this time, and while the Parliament are vigorous in their Zeal and Care for his Majesty's Safety. I am

Dec. 30. 1694.

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**I**N obedience to command, I sent an Answer to your Gr-ce on *Saturday*, and I hope by this, the Persons are gone to seize the Arms; I am certain they are at the place : and upon the best grounds a Man ought to believe the truth of things, I am farther assured, that they cannot be removed but that I shall have a knowledg of it. The Enemies of the Government are in great hopes that his Majesty will not go for *Flanders*, and hope from thence that it will cause the *Confederates* to take other measures.

May it please your Gr-ce ; I have been, and am at a great *Expence* in Town, for my Correspondence and keeping Company is a great charge :



charge: if I was *furnished* with *Money*, nothing of *moment* could slip my knowledg, by reason I have *access* to most of the *intelligent* Companies, and I am sure it will be of great use; then no Design can be form'd but what I can give *timely* notice of, nor any Person to be enquired of but I can know his *Character*.

If I have been shorter in my Intelligence than was expected, it hath been only for want of Money to support the Expence, and not of sufficient acquaintance to procure it. If I had a *certain* allowance, I could do the King *great* Service, and I am *sure* it would answer the end. I hope your Gr-ce will pardon this trouble, and I do assure your Gr-ce no one shall be more active to serve the Government than my self, that thereby I may demonstrate my self to be

Jan. 3. 94.

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

*His Gr-ce was not pleased to answer my Letters until the 2d of February.*

\*

*February*

February the 2d 169<sup>s</sup>.

‘ I Have here inclosed sent you a Bill of  
‘ twenty Pounds, payable upon Mr. Ri-  
‘ chard Peirson Goldsmith, within Temple-bar ;  
‘ I have directed him to pay it at sight. I am  
‘ just going into the Country, and desire you  
‘ will upon my account, put your self to no fur-  
‘ ther charge or trouble.

My Lord D-ke ;

U P O N the first perusal of your Gr-ce’s Letter I was amaz’d, that my bringing to perfection a Service, once thought great and acceptable, for which I was to be rewarded and settled for the future, should be now thought of no value. This I am sure of, that such a Discovery would have demonstrated the truth of the Party’s Preparations, and that the Lancashire Gentlemen were not unprovided ; which would have taken off the Blemish the State lay under, partly by too quick an apprehension. On that consideration, and my regard for the Publick, I have been the more industrious.

But upon further thoughts of your Gr-ce’s Letter, I do find my self obliged to your Gr-ce for the secrecy of my Name and Service, and for that reason think my self to be justly in  
your



your Gr-ce's debt, and that my Duty to the Government obliges me to assert and make appear what I did promise, and am still capable of doing. Nothing can give me a greater trouble than your Gr-ce's Indisposition, and that I may not apply my self to your Gr-ce, to perfect the Work your Gr-ce hath so well encourag'd by Promises. I will endeavour to do it to perfection, being by Inclination as well as Duty oblig'd. I am, and do own my self

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

Febr. 3. 94.

*It is to be observ'd, that I interpreted his Gr-ce's dismissive Letter only to his Indisposition: I waited his Gr-ce's Recovery, and then I continued my Correspondence, and concluded, that the Arms were to lie only until his return.*

*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**B** EING obliged to your Gr-ce, I do, as in Duty bound, congratulate your Gr-ce's recovery of your Health: And I do assure your Gr-ce, that the Secrecy I have met with will be always acknowledg'd by me.

Our Enemies are now very brisk, and I am certain, if I am commanded, that no Design can be form'd but what I can give timely notice

tice of. I am daily in many of their Clubs; the Reasons the Party have for their Hopes, I will give your Gr-ce when I am order'd to wait on you. I am inform'd that the Naval strength at *Brest*, and parts adjacent, do consist of 55 Ships from 40 to 80 Guns. I am in all humility,

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

March 31. 95.

After this Letter I waited on the D— of S— at his House to beg his Pardon, if I had done any thing which gave offence; but his Gr-ce was pleased to tell me, that I was not under his displeasure. I then acquainted him that the *Male-contents* were very active. Upon which his Gr-ce reply'd, that when I had any thing material to communicate, I should let him know it. I received a *Complement*, but no *Support*, and then begg'd that he would be pleased to *recommend* me to the King; which his Gr-ce *promised* to do, and I continued my Correspondence.

*May it please your Gr-ce;*

IT is now generally believ'd by the *Faction*, that there will be a *Revolution*. They say that a *Common-Wealth* Government is now on foot, and that the D— of L—d's being at  
this



this time prosecuted, is only with design to remove him from the King, in order to bring forward their Designs; and that Admiral R— is sent for to command on that account. They further pretend, that such a Government will now be the securer for the two K--s Pretensions, the one striving to hinder the other's regaining the Kingdom. The *Jacobites* are well inclined to such a Government, and to serve in it, in order to bring in K. J. Great endeavours will be used this Year for his Return, and Wagers are offer'd upon it. The general Pardon is not look'd upon to have passed in favour or kindness to the *Male-contents*, but as they say, the end of it was to qualify the Lord S--nd-rl-d to act *publickly* in the Government, as he hath done a great while in *private*. I must needs add, they are big with Expectation, and ready for all occasions; very active, and almost arriv'd to the height to attempt any thing, being generally provided: I doubt not but to be able to give timely notice to prevent any Design of consequence. At *St. Germain's* the Court is still very much divided, and distinguished by the Names of *Melfordians* and *Middletonians*, and the keeping them so *divided* here, will be of great service.

My L—D—, I most humbly beg the continuation of your Gr--ce's Favour, and assure  
your

your Gr-ce that there shall be nothing wanting in me to merit your esteem, it being my highest ambition to be stiled

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

May 4. 1695.

*May it please your Exc-ll—;*

**A**S I observed in my last, the Party are now in great hopes that there will be a speedy change of the Scene. They say that an Attempt will be made to land this Summer; there is one in Town that does assure them of it, and another came on *Friday* last, who is to return very speedily with an Account of Affairs here. They pretend that the Privateers will be order'd to be call'd in to make up the Fleet, and that Vessels are ready to transport a sufficient Force over; and that several thousand Men lie near the Coast in readiness to be transported. The *Malecontents* represent, that the whole Kingdom is well disposed, and that here is not a Force powerful enough for an opposition; concluding, that if they are not assisted this Summer, they shall never have so good an opportunity again.

On *Friday* I was walking with one Captain *Burroughs* in the *Temple*, when one Mr. *Green*



*Green* was taken up by *Mr. Allen*. It amazed several of them; and the Captain that was with me went immediately off, much concern'd. This *Mr. Green*, as I am inform'd, was exchanged from the *Savoy* Prison as a Military Man, but never was one. He was formerly a Clerk to *Judg Allibone*, and since to the Lord *Melford*; they say he has been over about six months. *Mr. Ed—n* of the *Exchequer*-Office, where he was taken, is his great Acquaintance. Captain *Burroughs* and Capt. *Stowe* are not ignorant of Affairs. The Party are more than ordinary busy at this time to expose the Government in their Pamphlets; I have here inclosed sent one, and there are a great many more published.

Your Exc-ll— was pleased to let me know by your Gentleman that I should hear from you; but having since received no Commands, it makes me fearful that I am under Displeasure. The apprehension of it is to me a great trouble, it having always been my ambition to be accounted worthy your Exc-ll— Favour and Protection. I do most humbly beg the liberty to pay my Duty to you; and that your Exc-ll— will be pleased to remember me.

I have not been sparing in my Expences to serve the Government; and I hope your Exc-ll— will be pleased to order me some Money,

Money, which I will receive with great thankfulness, and willingly dispose of it for the Service of his Majesty. I am

Your Exc-ll— most, &c.

May 27. 1695.

*It is to be observed, that the Letters of the 4th and 27th of May, 1695. were written when the Cabals were on foot that Summer to send Mr. Chernock into France.*

*The Letters of June 95. which concern the Dog-Tavern Riot are lost.*

*Being wearied and tired out with long attendance, I retir'd into the Country, from whence I writ the following Letter.*

*The Letter from Highdown-house in Herefordshire, Sept. 3. 1695.*

*May it please your Exc-ll—;*

**T**HE King's Friends are very joyful for the Surrender of *Namur* and the *Castle*, but the other Party as much cast down, having been assured of its relief. This hath given a great check to them, who now believe that



that the Country will the more freely part with their Money for the continuance of the War, since his Majesty's Arms have had so good success.

I can assure your Exc-ll— that great Application is making to dispose the Officers of the Army to the late King's Interest when occasion serves: For a Gentleman came to me and did assure me, that there is a Person in Town who is invested with full Power to treat with Persons, and particularly Officers of the Army, to persuade them to their side, upon these Conditions, That whenever it shall happen that the late King shall land here, upon their assurance and engagement of their going in to him, they shall be continued in their Commands; and for their further Security to have new Commissions delivered to them. And if any of them, as a Colonel or Captain, can engage their Regiments or Companies to do the like, they shall have, over and above their Commissions, such a Reward in Money as the Officer and the Party so authorized to treat shall agree upon. And that the Persons so disposed to treat, shall see the Instructions and Authority by which this Person acts for their further Satisfaction. This same Gentleman further told me, that they had engag'd a Colonel to their Interest; and that the Colonel before he was fully satisfied, did desire that a Person might be sent to the late King  
to

to receive a further confirmation from his own hand. And upon agreement, a Friend of the Colonel's naming was sent to K. James, who brought over from the late King the farther satisfaction which was desired by the said Colonel.

The said Person desired me, being acquainted with Military Men, that when I could meet with any Officers who were well disposed, to treat with them. And upon my assurance of the Persons Integrity, they should see both the Person that can continue them in their Commands, and the Instructions by which he acts; but no one to be treated with under the degree of a Captain.

May it please your Exc-ll—; As I have hitherto done what in me lies for the Service of the Government, so there shall not be any thing wanting for the future; and your Gr-ce's Commands in this Affair, or in any other, I am most willing to obey. If my going to *France* for three or four Months will be of use, I will do it; I am generally known at the Court of *St. Germans*, and I can have a good Recommendation thither.

If my writing to your Gr-ce be a trouble, by reason of your great Affairs; upon your Gr-ce's Recommendation to any other Person from whom I may find the like Secrecy, I will be obedient to your Exc-ll— Command.



I do most humbly beg, that as your Gr-ce was pleased to let me *know* that I should be *provided* for, that I may not be forgot, for I do wholly depend on your Gr-ce's Favour. The Gentlemen in the Country are making their Interest for Parliament-men; several will put up for this County.

As the difficulty for this Campaign was great to raise Recruits, so every Year it will be greater, and consequently the Charge. I have thought on a Method by which his Majesty may be well furnished with Men for the future, without any charge or disgust to the Publick, which I am *ready* to demonstrate when I am *commanded*.

I most humbly beg pardon for this trouble, and that your Exc-ll— will be pleased to honour me with a Line by the Bearer, that I may thereby know your Gr-ce's Pleasure, which will be a great satisfaction to

*Highdown,*  
Sept. 3. 95.

Your Exc-ll— most, &c.

*The*

*The Correspondence continued.**The Third of December 1695.*

In a few days after I had been in Town, I waited on his Gr-*ce* the D— of S— to know his Commands; who then was pleased to admit me to his Presence, and bid me *name* what I thought *necessary* to *support* the charge of my *Correspondence*. I did not name any Sum, but left it to *discretion*. Upon which his Gr-*ce* order'd me to send my Servant the next day, by whom he was pleased to send me a Bill of twenty pound: And in the Letter *promises to pay the like Sum quarterly, and besides to reward me particularly for every Discovery effected by my means.*

*The Minutes of the 3d of December 95.  
with his Gr ce.*

1. That I have now a *greater* Interest with the Party than before, and will *continue* my Correspondence if his Gr-*ce* pleaseth; which was accepted.

2. That I am now particularly acquainted with one *Holmes*, and also with one who at-  
tends



tends *Ferguson*; that by means of these two new Acquaintance, I shall learn more of the Proceedings of the King's Enemies, they being the Persons that receive and send most of the Letters that go to and from *France* by the private Boat.

3. Then it was agreed, that I should endeavour to find out the private Boat that carried the Letters, under pretence of going to *France*, and if possible to get *Ferguson* secured.

4. The D— then told me, that in his Progress with the King he went by the Gentleman's House in *Nottinghamshire* where the Arms lay conceal'd. I reminded his Gr-cc that this was Sir *Thomas Parkyns's* House, whereas the Arms were at Sir *William's* in *Warwickshire*.

*May it please your Gr-cc;*

**I**N humble obedience to your Commands I have sent my Man; and what Instructions your Gr-cc at any time gives me, shall be faithfully observ'd.

I cannot but take this opportunity to give your Gr-cc my most humble Acknowledgments for the honour and kindness your Gr-cc was

was pleased to give me, in *leaving* it to me to *name* what I thought *necessary* to support my *Expence*. I assure your Gr-ce, that whatever is appointed for me, shall be most thankfully receiv'd, and disposed of for his Majesty's Service. I wholly rely on your Gr-ce's *Favour* in all things; and I doubt not but to approve my self

Dec. 4. 95.

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

*A Copy of the D--- of S---- Letter, in answer to the aforesaid Letter.*

**I** Have sent you the inclosed Bill of twenty Pounds, and shall continue the same Sum to you quarterly, the first beginning next *Christmass*. I desire you will particularly apply your self to the two things we agreed on; and if you can effect any considerable discovery of that kind, or any other, you shall be consider'd for it besides.

*The Reader may observe, that I did not know what Allowance the D— design'd me, till I received this Letter.*

*It may likewise be observ'd, that I have done the Nation Service; and that I was only to*



*make Discoveries, and not to be an Evidence; for which I was to be rewarded over and above my fix'd Pension.*

*May it please your Gr-ace;*

THE consideration of your Gr-ace's Favour and Care of me, obliges me to perform my Promise with all the exactness and convenient speed that's possible; and I doubt not of answering your Gr-ace's Commands to satisfaction.

As to the first, of *Ferguson*, the Person who is his Attendant hath been out of Town; he was with me yesterday, and goes out of Town again for some few days. He is absolutely at my command; and to make him so, I allow him some Money weekly, and have given him some Clothes. This Person carries and receives the Letters that go to and from *France*.

Letters of a week ago do assure the Faction, that *the TOLON Fleet will be out, and make their way to Brest*; and if the *English Fleet* is not out by the middle of *February*, I fear they will obtain their Design. I assure your Grace, that the *Male-contents* are now very active, and as confident of Success as can be imagined. Therefore a great regard must be had to the early equipping the Fleet; one month

month will discover more of the reality of Affairs.

As to your Gr-*ce's* second Command, of the Boat, I have declar'd my Intention of going to *France*, and I shall not want Recommendation; and if no further Instructions come, then they will forward me all that is possible: but in order to it, Letters must be first sent to obtain leave: I am desir'd to stay five or six weeks. The late King *hath put most of his Officers away from him*; but truly the intent of that is with a design *to have them in England to do him service here, to manage an Army when there is occasion*: For a great many are here that have serv'd him in *Ireland, Scotland, and France*. One dined with me the other day, who hath been over about two or three months. I am invited to a Club with them. They are now so cautious, that they meet in by-corners of the Town, in private Houses, and at Taverns in obscure places. A great care must be had that some of them do not get into the Army; it is not with a good intention that they take Commissions: Captain *Moore*, and Captain *Haly*, both *Irish* Men, who have been Officers abroad, are now soliciting for Commands.



May it please your Gr-ce; Mr. *Chevery*, a North-Country man, who is now in *Newgate* about the *Dog-Tavern* Riot, lies for a Fine of 500 Mark. He has, by his Friends, solicited Mr. — to beg the Fine; who they say would have undertaken the Affair for a 100*l.* to be paid as he directed. But they cannot by any means reach higher than fifty or sixty Pounds; and that to be gather'd by Subscription from his Acquaintance, for truly he is not worth a Farthing. Captain *George Porter* who hath paid in his Fine of five hundred Marks, dined with me the other day, and desired me to engage some one to do it, I having often solicited Business at Court.

May it please your Gr-ce; This is a Sum that another will get: I therefore humbly beg, if it falls in your Gr-ce's way, to procure it for me; but in another Name, that it may not be discover'd that I have it, or that I apply to your Gr-ce. It will the better enable me to proceed in his Majesty's Service, by reason of the great Expence I am at in keeping Company. This will make me to have such an Interest in *Goodman* and *Porter's* Party, that they cannot do any thing without my knowledg, they being likewise of Sir *William Parkyns's* Faction. Besides, this Person's being at liberty can be no prejudice to the Government,

ment, by reason he will be always in my reach. I humbly beg your Gr-ce's Answer, for on Tuesday night I am to give in my Answer at Covent-Garden Tavern, otherwise one Captain M——ry a Jacobite will get it by the Earl of Ar——le. I am

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

Dec. 16. 95.

*A Copy of the D--- of S---- Letter, in answer to the aforesaid Letter.*

‘ **W**HILST you continue to do Service,  
 ‘ I will not fail to keep my Promise;  
 ‘ and if any considerable Discovery be made by  
 ‘ your means, you shall be rewarded particular-  
 ‘ ly: But as to what you propose of begging  
 ‘ the Fine, I can say nothing to that, nor do I  
 ‘ think it could help the Business to have you  
 ‘ appear to have much Interest at Court.

*Wednesday.*


*It is further to be observed, that in the D—— Letter there is an acknowledgment of my Services, with a promise of a particular Reward for Discoveries by my means to be effected:*



*effected : by which it appears that I was only to give notice of things, and not to be an Evidence.*

*May it please your Gr ce ;*

**I** Humbly give thanks for your Gr-ce's great Care and Kindness express'd for me in your last ; and I assure your Gr-ce that I will no more attempt any thing of the like nature, for fear I may be discover'd by the Party.

It is most certain, that the *Male-contents* have receiv'd Instructions to *prepare and*  *be in a readiness, for the Toloun Fleet will make their way to Brest ; and they daily expect to hear of their being out. New-years Day, according to the French account, is the day intended for their sailing ; and if possible before the business of the Coin be settled.*

This Affair is yet communicated but to a few, and some Commissions are come over. The Persons I apply'd to for going to *France*, will not now hear of it, they tell me my Service will be expected here ; and if *the Business doth not succeed*, then I am to go : a Relation of mine being a Colonel, I may have what Post I please. I have been with a Club of Officers who have served abroad, and I find they have the like *Instructions*.

The

The Party are more close than ever I knew them to be, and trust but a few, by reason many of their side have been, and still are so foolish as to brag and talk of the News they hear, and so they will not communicate any of their Designs to them, until they are so publick that every body must know them. The Faction are extreamly pleased that the Government is not apprehensive of their Intentions.

That they may have the greater confidence in me, I diet at a House amongst Gentlemen that are wholly their own; it is at the House where Sir *William Wallis* boarded: and I keep no Company that are for the Government, that the others may not be jealous of me. This must be carried on with the greatest privacy, that when the Affair comes to a ripeness they may be the better secured.

I was asked last night to go to the Tavern, but refused; and to day was told that *Ferguson* was there; I now know most of his Company, so that he cannot escape me long. But a method must be taken, that upon the least notice he may be forthwith seized, for he is very shy, it cannot well be till after *Christmas*. The young man I rely on will be out of Town these *Holy-days*: there will be also necessity for me to go into the Country for a week, for by so doing I shall discover more  
of



of their Designs. Mr. *Holmes* who receives the Instructions from abroad, will be at the place where I intend; I have made him my Friend by often drinking with him.


I am oblig'd to keep much Company, and I am not a day free, so that my Expences are very considerable, by reason I am necessitated to excuse some of the Company from paying; and a Man is also oblig'd to appear well in Clothes, otherwise he is slighted: and it prevails upon People to be the more open and free, when they see he has the appearance of a Gentleman. I do not keep any Person company, but what I make use of for his Majesty's Service: And I am sure there can nothing happen but what I shall be able to give timely notice of; and what I have engag'd to do I will faithfully perform. I hope there is no reason now to doubt of me: I do not hereby mean that I am dissatisfy'd at what your Gr-*ce* hath done for me, being thankful for it; but at this juncture, for three or four months, it will be very necessary, and much for his Majesty's Service, that I should not be destitute of a reasonable supply: I can say this, I have not since I have been in Town, spent any Money for my own diversion: To be the better husband, I have walked from one end of the Town to the other, having one Company in *Holborn*, one in the *City*, one at *Charing-Cross*,  
and

and another in *Piccadilly*; so that I may without vanity affirm, that I have no pleasure but in doing the King's Service, which is the principal thing I aim at, and that I may have the honour of continuing in your Gr-ce's Favour; for it is my greatest ambition to be worthy the Character of being

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

Decemb. 23.

### P O S T S C R I P T.

Just now the Person that delivers the Letters was with me, and confirms *the*  *Business of the Descent*, and tells me that the Instructions are communicated but to a few Persons; and that at the late King's Court it is hardly discoursed of, they being resolved to keep the matter private until they are ready to put it in execution, for they that are there can be ready in a short time. The Forces intended for the *Invasion* are not to march until the Fleet is out at *Toloun*, and they are to make no stay on the Coast, but immediately to embark. He tells me that he uses to deliver out about forty Letters, and complained of some of the Party's unkindness in not gratifying him for his trouble. He informed me, that he carried three Letters to the

L—d



L—d *Arr—n* the last Summer, who gave him three Guineas a time; Sir *John Friend* a Citizen half a Crown a time. But now Capt. *Hmbl.t.n* delivers the L—d *Arr—n*'s Letters. There is one Capt. *Neale* who is a Person of great Intelligence, and Capt. *Chernock* hath this *private Instruction about the intended Descent*. I shall by degrees get out *the forty Names*, but the Letters are all directed in contrary Names, and written in a Cant; they daily expect another Post. A Man must learn Affairs of them, by leading and drawing Questions, and by being always with them, and also generous and free. I made the Person that delivers the Letters this day a Present. I am sure I shall have immediate occasion for Money. I will send my Servant to know your Gr-*ce*'s Pleasure; and when your Gr-*ce* at any time commands my attendance, let a Note be left with Mr. *Lewis* at the Green House in Scotland Yard in *White-hall* a day or two before, by reason I lodg at the *Red spikes* in *Red-Lion Square*.

May

*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**I**N my last I made mention of the Design of the Enemy for this Spring, and I find that it holds true. I have enter'd into an Acquaintance with Capt. *H-mbl-t-n*, by the means of Mr. *Holms* ; and I am to meet him with others, who have receiv'd Intelligence. On *Thursday* Night, at a Tavern in *Covent-Garden*, Capt. *Neale* with whom I am not yet acquainted, is to be with us ; I know he has receiv'd a Letter to the same intent, and so has Sir *William Parkyns* : There will be most of *Ferguson's* Company. I do not know but that he may be there, by reason I am obliged to come alone. I have here inclosed sent a Paper, which I receiv'd from a *Scots* Gentleman, who is also to send me *Glencoes* Case lately written ; it's a very scurrilous Paper, and I believe *Ferguson* is the Author of it. This is certain, that both the *English* and *Scots* caress him mightily. I humbly beg your Gr-ce's Answer to my last. I am, in all humility,

*Dec. 29. 95.*

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

*The Reader may observe, that all the Letters which his Gr-ce was pleased to send me in answer to mine, I have inserted immediately after the said Letters.*

*May*



*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**T**HE repetition of the same thing often lessens the value of it ; but as these Affairs are of the last consequence, and require a daily confirmation, I once more humbly offer it as my advice, that a due provision and care be taken to prevent and undermine the Designs that are now hatching and blowing up against the Government. I have not mentioned any thing but what is true, and I can justify, that so I may the better appear your Gr-ce's most faithful Servant.

*As to the Descent*, I have good reasons to believe the truth of it. 'Tis now again repeated, by a positive Command, to have all things in a readiness in order to it. But this Affair is communicated but to a few Persons, and carried on with the greatest secrecy, the Fr--ch K. having been so often betray'd, as they term it, and thereby obliged to alter his Measures, by reason of the folly of the *Jacobites* here.

Yesterday I was desired to get a List of the Forces and Colonels Names here ; and also it was inquir'd into, what number of Guards usually attend his Majesty when he goes abroad ? The Intention of this I do not yet know ; I believe it is of *a bad consequence,*

sequence, therefore it is necessary to double the Number, and that quickly too.

Mr. *Holmes* came from Sir *William's* this week, by reason of the Express, and their great expectations from abroad. He tells me, Sir *William* is well pleased with my design of going to *France*; and in case they are disappointed in their Affairs, then I shall go.

As to *Ferguson*, it will be difficult to take him in a Lodging; but if a Method was concerted, it would not be so to take him in a Tavern. *There never were in this Reign more Designs against the Government than now.* But it is too tedious always to give a full Account by Letter. As I have engaged that nothing can be done of a bad Consequence, without my getting a knowledg of it; so nothing shall be wanting, if his Majesty will only support my Expences, which truly are great, but to a good purpose. I do not propose any thing that I may save a Farthing, until I have perform'd the greatest Service: Therefore I humbly beg that your Gr-*ce* will be pleased to let me have an immediate Supply, and liberty to wait on your Gr-*ce* to satisfy you how I spent the last, and give a full account of all Affairs, which I doubt not but will be to your satisfaction. I am, as most oblig'd to be,

Jan. 5. 1695.

Your Gr-*ce's* most, &c.

F

It



*It is to be observed, that upon writing this Letter, Mr. Holmes, and Major Holmes, had been down at Sir William Parkyns's House: Major Holmes went down within two or three days after he came from France. And upon his return the Affair was inquired into, which is mentioned in the Letter. It is evident, that one of his Instructions with Sir George Barclay was to kill the King, by their inquiring into the Number of the Guards, that they might proportion their Number sutable to the Enterprize. It is hereby apparent, that they had a Commission so to do, this being the first thing enquired into.*

*May it please your Gr-cc ;*

**T**HE Party are now very active and preparing ; I am certain of the *Descent* : here are now come over some Persons to confirm it, and that the *Toloun* Fleet will be out with all possible speed. A great quantity of Arms are brought down to *Brittany* to be transported hither ; there is come over an \* Earl's

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\* Mr. Francis Stafford was the Earl's Son, (but I did not then know it) whom I afterwards saw at the Bear-Tavern in Holborn.

Son who is private, I cannot as yet learn his Name: Some Gentlemen of my acquaintance drank with him the last night at the *Dog-Tavern*. He intends to write to one of his Majesty's Secretaries for leave to appear upon his giving in Bail.

Captain *Vernatti*, *Ferguson's* Companion, came to an Acquaintance of mine to let him know of the Certainty of what I have so often written; and withal told him, that his Friend *Ferguson* has written a new Book, and that the Printer is tedious in the printing it, but that it will be out in a short time; I am promised one of them. The *Male-contents* were never so confident of Success as now, and will leave no Stone unturn'd to bring forward their Design before the Business of the Coin is settled, which they give out will not be this four or five months. I doubt not but in a short time to give your Gr-*ce* as full an account of the Party's proceedings as can be wished, in order to circumvent them.

I humbly beg your Gr-*ce* will be pleased to order me one Sum more this week, and then I am sure to do my Business to satisfaction. I most humbly beg your Gr-*ce's* Answer and Pardon for this trouble. I am, and ever will be,

Your Gr-*ce's* most, &c.

Jan. 9. 1695.

F 2

May



*May it please your Gr-ce ;*

**I** Have now Affairs of the *greatest Consequence* to communicate, and am sure to make out what I have so often mention'd, for the Person employ'd to concert Affairs now, was over here formerly about the *La Hogue* Business ; and I have obtained a knowledg of his Instructions, by which means I shall be able to prevent *one of the Affairs he is particularly employ'd in*, and I hope to disappoint him in every thing he is come about : I have his Name, and he is well known to be a Favourite abroad. I have not been sparing in my Expences, therefore I most humbly beg that I may have another Sum immediately order'd me, that I may proceed, and also a time appointed to give your Gr-ce a full account of Affairs. The Book I last mention'd is now printed, and I shall have one for your Gr-ce within a day or two. I most humbly beg answer by the Bearer. I am, in all humility,

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

*Jan. 30. 13.*

*May*

*May it please your Gr-cc;*

**I** Most humbly beg your Gr-cc's Answer to my last. I assure your Gr-cc, that *the Affairs I have to communicate are of such a nature, that the preventing of them will be accounted a great Service.* And as to the Person who is come to concert Affairs here, when I have told his Name and Business, if it is thought convenient to seize him, I doubt not but to discover where he is. He is to return in a short time. I am

Your Gr-cc's most, &c.

Jan. 16. 95.

*A Copy of the D-- of S--- Letter, without Date, in answer to the aforesaid Letters.*

**I** Have been so ill ever since I received your Letter yesterday, that I am hardly able to write, and not in a condition to apply myself to Business: But if the Matter be of great haste and consequence, I would desire you would communicate it to Mr. V— my chief Clerk, for whose Secrecy and Fidelity I will be answerable. If I have your Answer that you consent to this, I desire you would

E 3      ' send



‘ send your Man with it to morrow morning  
‘ before nine a Clock, and then you shall have  
‘ a time appointed you, and an Answer to the  
‘ other part of your Letter.

*May it please your Gr-ce;*

**I** Am extreamly troubled for your Gr-ce's Indisposition, and chearfully submit to your Commands. I cannot wish for a greater satisfaction than your Gr-ce's assurance of Secrecy: it will be greatly for the Service of the Government that my Name be conceal'd. After I have told the Business of this Person, it must not occasion yet the taking up of any other Persons discours'd with, by reason the Business is not yet come to a ripeness; and the discovery of this Person must be so managed, that it may appear as if the Government was inform'd of these Matters from abroad, for they are jealous of many there. If not so done, I shall be of little use; but I shall take care always to be provided against them, for when they are to act, I am to be one, and in *Commission*. I am wishing your Gr-ce a speedy Recovery.

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

Jan. 17. 95.

*A Copy of the D--- of S--- Letter without Date, in answer to the aforesaid Letter.*

‘ **B**Y your Letter I do not understand,  
 ‘ whether you are willing to see Mr.  
 ‘ V— or no ; if you are, send me a Letter to  
 ‘ morrow, and let your Man come earlier  
 ‘ than he did this morning, for to day he was  
 ‘ an hour too late.

*Friday.*

*I returned answer, that I was very willing to see  
 Mr. V—, and that I was concern'd his  
 Gr-ce did not understand that I was willing  
 to comply with his Commands by my last ;  
 and that I now sent my Servant to know  
 when I should wait on Mr. V—.*

*A Copy of the D--- of S--- Letter, in  
 answer to my Message.*

*Saturday.*

‘ **Y**OUR Man being out of the way a-  
 ‘ gain when Mr. V— was here, I am  
 ‘ forced to tell you, that if you call on him to  
 ‘ morrow morning about eight of the Clock,  
 ‘ tell Mr. V— you are the Gentleman I spoke



‘ to him this morning of, he will hear your Bu-  
 ‘ siness. He lives in *Frith-street* near *So-*  
 ‘ *Ho.*

*The Minutes of the 19th of January 1695.*  
*with Mr. V—, at his House in Frith-street*  
*So-Ho: And on Monday the 20th of Janua-*  
*ry, at the Back-stairs in Whitehall.*

S I R,

I am order'd to wait on you by command from the D— of S—. My business with you, Sir, is to communicate some Affairs that I have given an account of to his Gr-ce by my Letters. I let him know that I had corresponded with his Gr-ce a long time, and that it was his Gr-ce's Indisposition that occasion'd me to come to him; and then shew'd to Mr. V— the D— of S— Letter.

1. The Affair I am come about is this, *A Descent is resolv'd to be made upon England*, and will be put in execution as soon as possible. In order to it, *Commissions are come to several here*, and Forces are moving towards the Coast; and a great quantity of Arms are brought down to *Brittany* to be transported hither. I am informed that the Force will be about 30000 Men, but will not be positive as to

to the Number. This Affair is resolv'd on, and several Persons have been treated with in order to it, and commission'd to rise.

2. There is one Major *Holmes* come over with particular Instructions about this Affair. He went down to Sir *William Parkyns's* House just upon his coming over, which was about *New-year's* tide. This Person also came over about the *La-Hogue* Affair; and I understand he is soon to return with an account of the posture of Affairs here. This matter will be forwarded, if possible, before the business of the Coin is settled. Then I acquainted him that Sir *William Parkyns* had a Commission, and that I was also to have one.

3. That one of Major *Holmes's* Instructions was to procure some \* *Dys* or *Deys* from *Roettier* in the Tower, to send over to the late King to coin some Mill'd Money to pay his Army when he landed in *England*. This I told him I was confident of, and desired him to get, if possible, the *Deys* of King *Charles* and King *James* out of *Roettier's* hands, under a pre-

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\* A Complaint was made against Mr. *Roettier* concerning the *Deys*, and was examin'd by a Committee of Parliament in 1697. which was above a Year after I gave in an account of that Matter.



tence of seeing them. Mr. V—— reply'd, *He would do so.*

4. I acquainted him, that the reason of so many Officers coming from *France*, was more out of a design to serve here, because the *Jacobites* wanted Officers to command their *Party*, than out of any necessity that the late King could not support them.

Mr. V—— reply'd, *Can you tell us which way to prevent the Descent? and do you know where they will Land?*

I answer'd him, that I did not know where they would Land; but the way to prevent them was to get the Fleet ready: and I advised, that what Forces were in *England* might be ordered to quarter near *London*, that they might be ready to march upon the first occasion; and that they should have particular Orders to keep a good Watch or Guard in their Quarters, lest they should be surprized; for I am told, said I, that the King's Enemies have a design, when the time draws near, to surprize, or take the Souldiers Horses in the night from them; and that is one reason that a good Guard ought to be kept.

5. I further told him, that there were several Persons who make Interest with *Inn-keepers*, and at *Livery Stables*, to secure the Horses in their

their Stables to *mount* the late King's Friends ; and that an eye was to be had on them.

6. I moved to have Major *Holmes* taken up, which was very well approv'd on. I assur'd Mr. *V—* that I could fix him at a Tavern, or at a Dinner, but it would be difficult to do it at a Lodging. I then told him that I did not personally know him, but I would get a description of his Person : And I hope, said I, we may take *Holmes* and *Ferguson* together at a Tavern. Mr. *V—* told me that *Holms* would be most valuable, and pray'd me to labour in that.

I met Mr. *V—* the next morning at the Back-stairs in *Whitehall*, and receiv'd from him a Bill of 20 l. He then pray'd me to get a description of *Holmes*, and to fix him as soon as I could. I then desired Mr. *V—* to get a Blank Warrant seal'd to put in his Name when I sent : The reason why I desir'd this, was for fear some Clerk might give notice, *the Party having their Spies in most Offices*. Mr. *V—* reply'd, He would write the Warrant himself.

*It may be here observed, that I have received but 40 l.*

May



May it please your Gr-ce ;

\* That was the  
Depredation  
Book.

I Have inclosed sent a Pamphlet \* just come out, written by Uncle, as the Party call him, that is, *Ferguson* ; it is a very scurrilous Libel. I most humbly thank your Gr-ce for the last Sum ; and I assure your Gr-ce I will apply the Money particularly for his Majesty's Service. I have given Mr. V— an account of the Person's Name and Business, and will attend him on *Monday* or *Tuesday* to settle the Method for the seizing him, which may be a means to ruin, or at least retard the Affairs he is come about ; *They are of the highest nature, and never was there a greater Blow intended against the Government.* I have a great many more Particulars of this Mystery than before. There is another *Post* daily expected, by which they will receive their Orders ; until then I would not have the Person taken up, for then I shall have an account of all. *What I have next to communicate will be surprizing, and I am sure will merit the greatest Reward, which I cannot doubt of from your Gr-ce, to whom I will be true and just in every thing.* I am

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

Jan. 24. 1695.

*I had now a greater insight into the Design intended against the King's Person, which I only guess'd at on the 5th of January, from their inquiry into the Number of Guards which attended the King.*

*The Minutes with Mr. V — at the Back-stairs in White-hall, the latter end of January 1695.*

1. I confirm'd the Matter relating to the *Descent*, for now they had fresh Orders to proceed and prepare with all expedition. I then gave him a description of *Holmes's* Person, and that I could fix him so that he might be taken in two or three days.

Mr. *V* — was then pleased to say, that *it signified nothing to take him*, for they could not hold him, having no Evidence against him. I reply'd, that I thought *his coming from France without leave was Crime enough*; and the seizing him would surprize the rest of the Party, and be a means to prevent the *Descent*. He was then very *cold*, upon which I writ the following Letter.

An



## An Observation.

Now it was resolv'd upon, when this last Express came from France, that Holmes should stay in England. He was second to Sir George Barclay in all things. And it is further evident, that the intended Assassination was by particular order from the late King, by reason the Number of Guards that attended his Majesty was sent over to him.

To J-- V--- Esq;

S I R,

I Perceiv'd that the Affairs discours'd of the other night, appear'd to you as *dubious*, and the Accounts I have given not to be *credited*. I assure you, Sir, that I am not so disingenuous to my self, as to abuse his Gr-*ce* with only Notions of my own, or any thing which cannot be made appear.

I must confess that I will never act as an *Evidence*, tho to get the *Indies*: However I will not scruple to do any thing for the Service of the Government, except being an *Evidence*. I doubt not, if due Methods are taken as I am willing and free to direct, to unravel

travel the Designs of the Party for this Year, and I hope for ever. I am,

S I R,

Your most, &c.

I wrote one Letter to Mr. V— after this, to acquaint him that I was going out of Town, &c.

May it please your Gr-*ce*;

I Cannot but always own your Gr-*ce*'s honourable Treatment, and in acknowledgment I will be ever grateful. In obedience to your Commands, I complied to meet Mr. V—. The Affairs then discoursed on seem'd *feizable* and *acceptable*; upon which I labour'd, as much as possible, to compleat them. But since I find a surprizing coldness, and that which is thought this day acceptable, is not so to morrow. I report nothing but what is matter of *Fact*.

I gave an account in my last to Mr. V— that I was going out of Town; the Coach was full, and so I was disappointed: but since the Person whom I intended to visit, is come to Town, I have learn'd the Affair I wanted to know, and so I have my end.

May



May it please your Gr-ce; To magnify my Services is to lessen them: but so far I may say without ostentation, that no Man can do more than my self, and is more true to your Gr-ce in every respect. *The Storm now coming is so violent, concerted, and sudden too, that it will be a great work to prevent it.*

I have thrown my self into your Gr-ce's power more by inclination than hopes of Profit, and from thence conclude my self safe in your Gr-ce's usage. I have things to communicate to your Gr-ce, which 'tis fit your Gr-ce should receive first from me, and not from any second Hand whatever. *The Affair is so considerable, that a delay may be dangerous.* Therefore I humbly beg leave to wait on your Gr-ce: I am sure by granting this, if your Gr-ce's thoughts are lessen'd for me, to recover my Credit, and wholly approve my self

Your Gr-ce's most, &c.

February 7. 1695.

Your Gr-ce's Commands and  
Time I beg to know.

*It is now to be observ'd that Mr. V— delivers most of the following Letters, and returns the D— of S— Answers.*

A Copy of Mr. V--- Letter, in answer to  
the above-written Letter.

S I R,

I Have delivered your Letter to my L--d  
D--, who desires you to come to him  
on Monday Morning: I am

Saturday.

S I R,

This was Feb. 8. Your most humble Servant,

J— V—.

The Minutes of the 10th of February 1695,  
being Monday, with his Gr--ce the D— of S—,  
at his House in St. James's Square.

1. That a Descent was fully agreed on: That  
the Malecontents were preparing in order to  
it: That Commissions were come over; that for  
instance, Sir William Parkyns and Sir John  
Friend had each of them a Commission for a  
Regiment.

2. That Sir William did employ me to sol-  
licite Mr. Cr-v-n, the Earl of Cr-v-n's Heir, to  
accept



accept of a Lieutenant Colonel's Command : That having a great Kindness for the Gentleman, I did not press the matter home to him, on purpose that he might not ingage ; and only reported to Sir *William*, that Mr. *Cr-v-n* had not Money, but what he could do he would, and that he had about six or seven Horses.

3. That Sir *William* with Capt. *Sc-dm-re* had bin down at *Leicester* to treat with, and consult the Gentlemen that way, and that I understood Sir *W-l-ft-n D-x.*, and Mr. *P-r-f-y*, &c. were with Sir *William* at the *Angel* Inn in *Leicester*, and that they were well disposed.

4. That Sir *George Barclay* and Major *George Holmes* were lately come from *France*, and that they had brought Orders and Instructions over, and were in daily consultation here.

5. That they had a design upon the King and *Kensington*, and also to seize or surprize the Guards, &c. *His Gr-ce* replied, he did believe it. That if I had Money to equip my self out, I was sure to know the time ; and I did not doubt but to prevent their Design. That I would not bargain or article with my Prince, but

but leave my self wholly to the King's Favour; and then intimated that in a change of Government, I could have a Regiment: but at the same time I hinted, that no *Protestant* could expect to continue long in Command, the *Papists* being so violent and revengeful.

6. That I was inform'd that *Ferguson* was concern'd in this Affair, and to be a Privy Counsellor; if a Change of Government was effected.

7. That Secretary *Melford* was the principal Manager of these Undertakings, and that *Middleton* and the *Compounding* Party were ignorant of the Design: and that many Expresses were dispatcht by the F—K.

8. That Arms were sent down to the Coast, and the Forces were also moving that way, in order to the *Descent*; and that the *Toloun* Fleet would come into the Channel: But however that happen'd, the Design would go on; for they did not absolutely depend on the *Toloun* Fleet. I then wished that Admiral *Rook* was at home.

9. I gave an account that a great many Officers were come over under a pretence that the late King *James* order'd them to shift for them-



themselves; but truly the meaning of it was the better to colour their ill Designs here, the *English* wanting Officers to command their Party.

*My L—d D— gave Encouragement, and order'd me to call on him in four or five days, as if to be supply'd with Money on that account: upon which I promised some of the Faction to provide a Horse, &c. I daily confirm'd the design of the Party, and that it went hourly on. I very much press'd to be admitted again to my L—d D—'s presence, to give a full account in person, as appears by the following Letters.*

*May it please your Gr—ce;*

**S**INCE I was last to wait on your Gr—ce, I have been very industrious to find out the Means and Method for the bringing about *this great intended Revolution*. I have now a greater insight into it than before: I must say this; I think if it should be effected, it will be the strangest and most wonderful I have ever yet met with in History.

I have been this day at my L—d R—dn—rs Stable to buy a Horse; I must have all my Equipage futable for this Affair out of hand, otherwise I shall be incapable to perform my Promise: and I am sure I can do it. Money  
now,

now, and liberal too, must not be wanting. *What is done to capacitate me must be this week, otherwise it may be too late.* The Malecontents do not spare for any thing in this Affair. My Credit will be lessen'd, if I do not equal them in appearance. I assure your Gr-ce it is a great Concern which I have undertaken: I am forced to spend at an extravagant rate, and must run the hazard of my Life, if I am discovered. Your Gr-ce was pleas'd to command my Attendance within four or five days, the sooner the better: I beg to know when, by a Letter from Mr. V— this day. I am, and ever will be,

Your Gr-ce's

Febr: 11.

95.

Most, &c.

Mountague Brown Secretary  
*is just come over.*

*It may here be observed that the following Letters went inclosed to Mr. V—, who deliver'd them to his Gr-ce.*



*A Copy of Mr. V--'s Letter, in answer to  
that which I sent the D-- of S--.*

*S I R,*

‘**Y**our Letter of yesterday was not deliver’d  
‘ to me till this Evening; however, I  
‘ have had an opportunity to give the inclosed  
‘ immediately to my L—d D—ke, who  
‘ commands me to tell you in answer to it,  
‘ that he would have you to send him in writ-  
‘ ing what the Design is, that you only hint at  
‘ in general.

‘ That you may both consider of it, before  
‘ you engage in those great Expences you  
‘ think necessary; and you may be assured  
‘ it shall be managed with all secrecy on his  
‘ part; and therefore does not think fit you  
‘ should be seen coming to him, lest it might  
‘ bring you under any suspicion. I am

*S I R,*

*Febr. 12.*

*95.*

Your Humble Servant

*J. V—.*

*May*

*May it please your Gr-<sup>ce</sup>,*

**I** Am oblig'd by your Gr-<sup>ce</sup>'s great Care and Kindness never to masque any thing from your knowledg : I hope your Gr-<sup>ce</sup> will not now let me want a Support ; otherwise my Credit will fall, tho I have been at so great an Expence ; for I am already ingag'd to equip my self, and that to morrow.

To give an account of all Circumstances relating to the Design I intimated, will be more than I can write, and tedious for your Gr-<sup>ce</sup> to read. In short, a Project is laid by Order and Command of the Late King, and the F— King, to make an Insurrection here ; and Gentlemen have been consulted with, and commission'd to rise in many Counties of *England* at the same time. One Gentleman I was with last night, as I am told, does promise to raise a thousand Men. The *Toloun* Fleet is now out, and we daily expect to hear of their Arrival at *Brest*. But the Affair of the greatest expedition, and not yet communicated but to a few, and they to be Undertakers, is this, *To carry off the King, and that quickly too ; there will be at least 60 Commission'd Officers to do it : When they have beat the Guards, they are to force the King to ride with them, and a Vessel is ready to carry him to France.* The Order, as they

G 4



they say, is not to abuse his Person; and when the King is there (for the Vessel will be over in a few hours) whilst the Nation is in a *Consternation* for the Person of the King, then the *French* will appear, and bring over the late King. The Persons that are to be chief Actors are to be made Lords. There are daily Prayers made for the accomplishment of this great Design, and 40000 *l.* remitted for this and the *Insurrection*.

Now my request to your Gr-ce is, that I may be furnished with Money to equip, as I have promised, and as your Gr-ce gave me some hopes to believe, when I was with you, which made me go on accordingly. My end in this is, *not only to know their Persons and their Numbers, but to be equally ingag'd to know the day and time, that so I may prevent their Designs*; which I am sure I can do, if I am assisted in time. I need not magnify this Project, it will speak enough for it self, and what I deserve for breaking of it. I could not answer the obliging Letter Mr. V— writ by your Gr-ce's Command, till to day, by reason I was at a great Entertainment yesterday. I am not to buy Horses or Furniture, but as approved by the Party. *Mountague Brown* Secretary is come over, and two or three more two days ago. There shall be nothing for the future demanded of me by your Gr-ce,

Gr-ce, but what if I am order'd I will communicate to Mr. V—. I am

Febr. 14.

Your Gr-ce's

95.

Most, &c.

1. *Note, that I was in the morning the day before the writing of this Letter, with Mr. Chernock at the White Horse Tavern in Norfolk Buildings near to St. Clements in the Strand ; where among other Discourse, he desired to assist me in the buying a Horse. I told him that I had seen one at my L—d R-dn-r's Stable, and he was a Grey one. He told me that he could help me to a Horse that he knew to be a good one, and he is a Grey too, but the price would be forty Pound.*
2. *The Entertainment I mention in the Letter was at Mr. Braxton's in the Savoy ; there were Sir William Parkyns, Capt. Cripps, Mr. Ceely a West Country Gentleman, Captain Caryl, Captain Lewis the L—d F-v-sh-m's Gentlemen of the Horse, Captain Neal, Thomas Lea a Messenger to the late King, Mr. Holmes called Old England. At this Meeting Sir William desired Mr. Lewis to assist me in the buying a Horse : We staid at Braxton's, and at the Fountain*



*Fountain Tavern in the Strand till between twelve and one of the Clock at Night.*

3. *It is reported that the 15th of February was to have been the day on which the King was to be assassinated. It might indeed be so concluded on between some of the Parties, but I do not believe it was so concluded by all, by reason they were not all in a readiness, and the number not compleat, as appears by Cranborn's being taken in to be one of the number of the Conspirators some few days after: Besides, if it had, it could not well have escaped my knowledg.*

4. *Tho the manner the Conspirators gave out among themselves of conveying the King into France was impracticable, no one but must infer that their Design was to kill his Majesty. This Method was proposed, as I presume, rather to soften the matter, that they might not by too blunt a Declaration, startle any of their Creatures from proceeding in so horrid a Design. However I must give my Intelligence in the words I receiv'd it.*

*A Copy of Mr. V— Letter, in Answer to the Letter dated the 14th of February 1695.*

S I R,

**Y**OUR Letter has been delivered to my  
L—d D—ke, who desires to have an  
Account from you where Mr. Brown is to  
be found, who you acquaint his Gr—ce is  
lately come from France. I am,

S I R,

Your humble Servant,

J— V—.

*I did not receive this Answer un-  
til Monday the 17th of Fe-  
bruary 1695.*

*May it please your Gr—ce ;*

**T**HIS day I received a Letter from Mr.  
V— with your Gr—ce's Commands as  
to Mr. Brown. I assure your Gr—ce he is come  
over, my Authors for it are not only Mr. A-  
damson where I often dine, but also Father  
Churchill, commonly called Dr. Churchill. I  
paid a visit to him last Friday night. Amongst  
our



our Discourses we were talking of Persons lately come from *France* ; and I told him, that *Mountague Brown* Secretary was come over. He confirmed it, and that he had seen him ; he also told me he had made his Peace with the Government, and was a going down as the next day, or within a day or two, into the Country, which must be to the L—d *Mountague Browns* at *Midhurst* in *Sussex*, which I will further inquire into. The old Gentleman then told me, that he believ'd we should have a merry *Easter*. I cannot find that he is privy to the grand Design I mention'd, but only to the *Invasion* in general, which I assure your Grace is true. I was very much concerned, when I receiv'd Mr. V— Letter, that the other parts of my Letter were not answered. Affairs were never carried on with that secrecy and prudence as at this time, the Party are jealous of every body ; two of the principal Actors in the Design I have mention'd, see none but those whom their Instructions permit them to treat with. *Ferguson* is in the Plot, being call'd upon to equip. According to the encouragement I receiv'd, I gave a promise that I would do it last week, and again to day ; and if I am not furnished with Money some time to day, I shall utterly lose my Credit, and can never expect to wind my self into the depth of things : I never spare for the Charge,  
and

and with Expences nothing can be conceal'd from me. I had nothing in excuse, but that the Person who is to lend me Money could not do it till to day, Guineas not being before settled: Therefore I humbly beg your Gr-ce to let me be provided at this time, when I may do most Service; I shall think it an Age until I have your Gr-ce's Answer to-morrow by twelve of the Clock by Mr. V—. If I was not sure of doing the greatest and best of Service, I would not be thus importunate; or if I was not fully satisfy'd, upon mature deliberation, that what I beg is absolutely necessary: For I have so great a regard and value for your Gr-ce, that I would not for the World lose your esteem by asking any thing that is unnecessary. I am humbly begging your pardon for this trouble.

Your Gr-ce's

Febr. 17.  
95.

Most, &c.

*By reason I receiv'd no Answer to my Letter at twelve of the Clock as I expected, I went down to White-hall in the Evening, and sent for Mr. V— to speak with him at the Back-stairs.*

The



*The Minutes of the 18th of February, being Tuesday, with Mr. V— at the Back stairs.*

1. Mr. V— brought me a Bill of \* 20 l. and asked me whether that would do? if not, what would? I reply'd, your own reason must tell you that such a Sum will be of little use; I did not think his Gr-ee would have sent such a Sum. He press'd me again to know what would do; I made him answer, that I thought I could not do with less than fifty Pounds, and then began to reckon up the Charges to equip. I told him, that the King might have the Horse, &c. again, for I did not value a Horse but for his Service. I remember I talk'd with his Gr-ee to the like effect on the 10th of February, when I told him of the Design against the King. Mr. V— said, *I was in the right not to accept the Bill, unless it was sufficient.* I reply'd, perhaps my L—d D-ke will be displeased if I refuse it. Mr. V— answer'd, *That he was sure he would not; but still kept the Bill in his hand, and desired me to*

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\* The Reader may here observe, that if 20 l. would have equipp'd me, then no Objection had been raised; but 50 l. put a stop to my Proceedings, tho absolutely necessary at that critical Juncture.

write immediately to the D— and he would deliver the Letter.

2. I then gave Mr. V— a large account of the Plot, and of the Design against the King's Life, with many of the Particulars, giving him the Names of Sir George Barclay, Major Holmes, Chernock, Porter, &c. And begged of him that the King might be intreated not to use his Diversion of shooting or hunting for some time. He reply'd, *What would you have the King coop'd up?* Sir, answer'd I, I do think it will be safe for the King not to hunt or shoot for a day or two, when such a Matter as a Design against his Life is resolv'd on, and to be put in *execution* with the first opportunity.

3. I then propos'd a Method how the Party might be taken; that when the King went out to hunt, and the *Conspirators* had fix'd to go, (of which I would give him notice) the King should not return the same way, but send a Coach and Guards back, and have another Party of Guards set out of Town after the *Conspirators* were gone out, and so be in a readiness to surprize them: Which Mr. V— approv'd of.



4. Sir, continued I, *I cannot get the time if I do not perform my Promise ; pray move my L—d D—ke again to morrow : Which he promised.* And then I writ a Letter as he advised, and sent it that night from the *Back-stairs* into the Office, for Mr. V— to carry to my L—d D—ke to let him know that 20 *l.* would not do. I receiv'd an Answer the next day.

*A Copy of that Letter of the 18th of February before-mention'd, which I writ by Mr. V—'s advice.*

*May it please your Gr-ce,*

**I** Was this Evening to wait on Mr. V—, and gave him some account of Affairs. He was pleased, by your Gr-ce's Order, to present me a Bill of twenty Pounds. It is a Sum that I do not reject, but am free to accept, and to give your Gr-ce thanks for it. But upon this occasion I do humbly conceive it will not answer the end design'd, for I must have a Horse of a good price, which at the cheapest cannot be bought for less than 25 or 30 *l.* besides Furniture, &c. I can justify myself, that I have not been more expensive than necessary, and this Service will speak for it self. It is ill husbandry in me to be sparing at  
this

this time: if what I have writ is offensive, I do most humbly beg pardon, for it is not my intention to do any thing disobliging to your Gr-ce. I am willing to submit to whatsoever your Gr-ce commands me. I am

Feb. 18.

Your Grace's

95.

most, &c.

*A Copy of Mr. V — Letter, in Answer to the Letter of the 18th of February.*

S I R,

I Have given your Letter to my L—d D—ke, who thinks you should be able to inform him further, and more particularly of the Design you hint at, before he parts with such a Sum as you demand; and I hope you will be able \* to satisfy him therein, and then there will be nothing wanting on his part that may be necessary for the Service proposed, or for your encouragement. I am,

S I R,

Wednesday Noon.

Yours, J—V—.

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\* By which you may see, that Mr. V— was satisfy'd, and only hoped I might satisfy his Gr-ce.



On Thursday the 20th of Febr. 95.

*I went to White-hall and sent a Letter to Mr. V— to desire him to come to me to the Back-stairs, for I had brought a full Account; and if he pleased, he should see it before it was sealed up to send to the D—ke. Upon which Mr. V— did not come, but sent the following Letter to me at the Back-stairs.*

S I R,

‘ I Have receiv’d your Letter; but since my  
 ‘ L— D-ke desired you to send him in  
 ‘ writing what you had to inform him of, I  
 ‘ think you ought to send it directly to his  
 ‘ Gr-ce; and if he is pleased I should see it,  
 ‘ that will be best after it is delivered. There  
 ‘ are some Gentlemen in the Office that hin-  
 ‘ der me from waiting on you; and therefore  
 ‘ I take this occasion to acquaint you, that if  
 ‘ there be any thing you would have presented  
 ‘ to my L—d D-ke, I will take care of it if it  
 ‘ be put into my hands. I am,

S I R,

Your most humble Servant,

J. V—.

*I did immediately seal up in a Cover the following Account, and sent it from the Back-stairs to Mr. V—— into the Office, to be by him delivered to the D—— of S——.*

*May it please your Gr-ace ;*

**I** Am extreamly troubled that I have been so importunate, and now at last question'd of the truth of what I have reported : I wish it were of no Substance ; if so, I had not troubled your Gr-ace. First then, as to my demands of Money I make none, but leave it wholly to discretion, having been supply'd hitherto. Mr. V—— Letter imports a further Satisfaction, I will therefore now give you all that has come to my intelligence. In my former Letters I intimated more than once, That *there is a Resolution taken and form'd, and by Authority from Fr——ce, to seize upon the King at his diversion of shooting or hunting ; and if possible to carry him off, they having in a readiness against the time, a Vessel to convey him to Fr——ce ; and in case they cannot do so, then they are to gripe him.*

The Method how this was to be carried on and executed, I have been very inquisitive to know, and have diligently examined the mat-



ter. As first, they have got a number of Officers, all or most *Roman Catholicks*, to the number of Fifty, that are to undertake the Seizure: And they, in order to it, have bought up Horses and Furniture, &c. and so are in a readiness, as time shall offer, for the compleating it. I was with my Intelligencer when he went to buy up Furniture as directed; and I further examined him how this could be put into execution, the difficulty being great for so great a number to appear and go out together. He assured me that difficulty is pass'd over, as thus: That it's resolved, upon the Intelligence they expect of the day the King is to hunt or shoot, to dispose of themselves after this method; to Inn by two or four at several Inns in adjacent Villages, habited as Country Gentlemen; and upon the day and time of the King's taking his Pleasure, to meet together to perform this great Design. They do conclude, that when this matter is performed, it will so amuse the Government, that they cannot tell in twenty four hours what measures or course to take; and that in that time they shall have carried the King away, or *griped* him, as the expression is. Besides this Body, they are to have twenty five Footmen in Ambuscade. And upon conclusion of this execrable Design, I am further told, that then the Mob will be stirr'd up in several

several parts of the City, and the Gentlemen are to retreat to their several Counties to rise; for all Methods are concerted: and upon this *Hurly-burly* the *French Fleet* will bring over the late King *James*.

The Persons particularly imploy'd, as I have hitherto learned, are these, Sir *George Barclay*, who is made a Major General, and to command as chief Officer in this horrid Design, and Major *Holmes*; these two lately came from *France*, and disburse Money in order to it, and are the principal Actors. As for Persons in Town, I do learn that there is Captain *Chernock*, who has received a Lieutenant Colonels Command; Captain *George Porter*; Mr. *Chambers*, a Captain of a *French Privateer*; Captain *Boyse*, &c. This is an Affair resolv'd on, and I dare say will be put into execution. As to the General *Invasion*, that will much depend on this *Action*. I am told that I must be imploy'd in *Warwickshire*. This I am sure of, I cannot expect to be let deeper into the Secret, unless I perform my Promise in equipping, which will give me an opportunity to learn every thing. When I am furnish'd, I am confident nothing will be concealed from me, and dare pawn my Life upon it, to get the time and day, and put matters into such a method as to crush them all, when they are so dispos'd, and quarter'd, and to



countermine all their Undertakings. When I have done this, I care not if it is known that I am the Author, since I have had such repeated Assurances from your Gr-ce, *to be protected and provided for.* Captain Chernock, one of the Grand Incendiaries, is to assist me in providing of Equipage, by which I hope to be further intrusted. This I promise, that as your Gr-ce hath given me the honour to intitle my self *Your Gr-ce's faithful Servant*, I will so approve my self as to deserve it; and by your Gr-ce's Recommendation, the King's Favour. I humbly beg to know to morrow your Gr-ce's *final Resolution*; and, if your Gr-ce pleaseth to allow me liberty, to pay my Duty to your Gr-ce. I am, in all humility,

Febr. 19.  
1695.

Your Gr-ce's

Most, &c.

*A Copy of Mr. V--- Letter, by Command from the D--- of S---, in answer to the aforesaid Letter.*

S I R,

‘ I Delivered your Letter yesterday to my  
 ‘ L—d D--ke; and moved him again this  
 ‘ morning upon your second Letter. But his  
 ‘ Answer was both times, that *he was going*  
 ‘ *out of Town for three or four days; and he*  
 ‘ *thought it would be time enough to consider of*  
 ‘ *your Demands at his return:* and in the mean  
 ‘ time he supposed you would be able to get a  
 ‘ more particular Information. I am,

S I R,

Friday noon.

Your most humble Servant,

J—V—.

1. It may here be observed, that the Information of the 19<sup>th</sup> of February, is a fuller Account of that execrable Villany than any yet extant; and not only pav'd the way, but also gave a Credit to believe any of the *Conspirators*, who after fell in; which could not but be ex-



pected from the great number of Persons that were engag'd in that barbarous Design, either out of Fear, or for hope of Reward.

2. It may also be observ'd, that I have not only faithfully, but fully perform'd my part, in making so full and ample a discovery of the Enemies Design against his Majesty's Person and Government. And it is evident that no one but my self, has made it his business to countermine their Paces. So that I have answer'd the end of my Commission, which was *to be particularly rewarded for the Discoveries effected by my means*. I was not to be an Evidence.

3. What could I further do, who was to wait for a Resolution from his Gr-ce before I must engage? as appears from Mr. V—— Letter from his Gr-ce on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 95. And at last, tho I positively writ for a final Resolve, I was still deferr'd: So that nothing was wanting on my part.

Friday, February the 21<sup>st</sup>, the Passages  
of that Day.

On Friday, about twelve of the Clock, I receiv'd the aforesaid Letter from Mr. V——,  
to

to acquaint me that the D— of S— was gone out of Town. I was very much disturb'd, by reason I had writ for a *final Answer*. Having notice that the Party were in deep consultation, I walked down to St. James's Square, to know whether the D--ke was really gone or no. I sent the Person who usually carried my Letters to make enquiry: He went to the D— of S— House, and brought me word, that his Gr--ce was gone into the Country to Stoner House near Henly upon Thames. In the Evening I went to White-hall; I sent to Mr. V— to let him know that I thought the D--ke's going out of Town might be prejudicial to the King, and I desired to speak with him, and to bring with him the Bill of twenty Pounds, which would have been very useful to me that night. Upon which I receiv'd the following Letter.

S I R,

‘ **T**HE Bill I brought \* being thought  
 ‘ not sufficient, I have returned it, as  
 ‘ it was my Duty; and I can only obey the

---

\* It is still to be observ'd that they were fully satisfied in the matter, provided so small a Sum as 20 l. would have done the business.



‘ Orders I receive : I shall be sorry however  
 ‘ if it be any disappointment to you to ex-  
 ‘ pect his Gr-*ce*’s return; but that will be with-  
 ‘ in a few days. I am,

S. I R,

Yours, J. V—.

Saturday, *the 22d of February 1695.*  
*the Passages of that Day.*

In the morning my Intelligencer came to me, and told me, he wonder’d where I was, by reason he could not find me the last night. I made him answer, that I sat late at Cards; But, pray, how do Affairs go on? He reply’d he was call’d up in the night, and ordered to give our Friends notice to be ready as this morning: But several of them were not to be found, some of them lay out of their Lodgings last night, so the matter is deferr’d till another day; the Design upon the King would have been put in execution this day if all the Gentlemen could have been found. I called last night to tell you, and would have called earlier this morning if they had stirr’d out. Besides, *Chambers* has brought word that the King does not hunt to day, but it will be put in execution whenever he goes

a Hunting: I believe on *Tuesday* next it must be done, for *they are ready on the other side*, (the meaning was as to the *Descent*, which was to have seconded that barbarous Blow.) I had the same things confirm'd by another, and that the Conspirators were to have gone out, after they had receiv'd notice that the King was gone a hunting, and that they were to quarter in and about *Turnham Green*.

In the Evening I went to *White-Hall*, and sent from the *Back-stairs* the following Letter: Upon which Mr. *V* — came immediately to me, tho I mention'd that I would attend him in the Morning.

*Honoured Sir ;*

**T**HO I have not been as to the point of time (I fear) used as the Interest of the King demanded, yet I cease not to be very diligent for his safety ; I was this Evening to speak with you : But I must speak with you to morrow, for I fear my L--d D-ke's Stay will be very prejudicial, except I wait on the King ; and if not forthwith assisted, too late for me to proceed in my Service ; I will wait on you to morrow Morning by 9 of the Clock at your House, having Affairs to communicate which require a speedy Resolution.

I am, Sir, &c.

*Feb. 22. 95.*

i. i



1. I gave Mr. F—— an Account of all Particulars, as in *page 110, 111*. You see, Sir, continued I, that my L<sup>d</sup> D-ke's going out of Town might have been prejudicial, and how the King might have been served this day; and you now find that they still resolve to carry on their wicked Designs: pray let the King be intreated not to stir a hunting for a time; I hope you have so done upon my last motion. And then I reminded him of the Method of taking the Conspirators, as in the *3d Minute, page 111*. Mr. V—— at this time did acquaint me that he had seen my Letter of the Plot.

2. I acquainted him that I supposed it would be very necessary for me to wait on the King; and I let him know that I thought myself very ill used. He press'd me to stay until the D-ke's return, which he said would be on Sunday night. I answered that I had discours'd with a King before now, and that I had not been used to be *skreen'd*: I thought it absolutely necessary to go myself; he press'd me again not to go, but to stay till the D—— return'd.

3. Mr. V—— asked me whether I had not been already with the King, or my Lord *Portland*:

*land*: I answer'd, No; I have apply'd only to the D-ke. Mr. V—— told me that the King had received notice, and did not there-upon go a Hunting. That's very well, replied I, no doubt but the D-ke has told him of it. I was then more violent to go to the King: He desired me not to be so loud, but stay till the D-ke's return; upon which I parted very angry.

1. It may be here observ'd that the Conspirators could not have stir'd out without my having notice; and that I was resolved to have given it, does appear by my going down to *White-hall*, to communicate what came to my knowledg of that Day's Proceeding. It did not at that time appear to the World that the Plot was discovered.

2. Moreover, I was so well planted as to my Lodging \* and places of eating or drinking, that it was impossible for them to have moved unobserv'd. I was at the *Bear Tavern* in *Holborn* two or three times a day, which was directly against *Holms's House*; and I never fail'd

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\* *My usual Lodging was at White-hall, but during the time that this Horrid Plot was in agitation, I lodg'd in Red-Lyon Square to avoid suspicion, and seldom made use of the other Lodging, except to write my Letters in without disturbance; yet my time was so precious, that I was oblig'd to write in a hurry.*



to go to that House twice or thrice a day, and I constantly receiv'd Intelligence of the Party's Motions. Their Horses stood in the Inns in and about *Holborn*, and I often drank at them too. I was as well placed to observe their Motions, as *Chambers* was at *Kensington*; and my Intelligencer never disappointed me; and if they had gone out, I always was in the way to have given immediate notice.

On Sunday Warrants were out: Mr. V—— told me that some Persons had discovered the Affair, at which I was very joyful; saying, You see now that what I have acquainted you of this Design proves true.

*A Letter to Mr. V—— on Monday the 24th of February 95. from the Back-stairs.*

S I R,

**I** Will wait on you to morrow Morning; in the mean time if my L--d D-ke is in Town, let him be moved in the Affair I mention'd: a great regard must be had to the Coast in *Kent* and *Sussex*. I am,

S I R,

Your most, &c.

Feb. 24. 95.

*Tuesday*

*Tuesday from the Back-stairs.*

S I R,

I intended according to my Letter to have waited on you this Morning; I am now at the *Back-stairs* if you have any Commands, and I desire Liberty to wait on my L-d D-ke in order to wait on the King. I am,

S I R,

Feb. 25. 1695.

Your most, &c.

So soon as Mr. V—— receiv'd this Letter, he immediately came to me, and took me privately with him into the Office, it was in the Evening. He acquainted me that the D—— was there, and that I should see him. When I was in Mr. V—— Closet, he order'd one of the Office to acquaint the D—— of S—— that I was with him: upon notice of it his Gr-cc immediately came to me in Mr. V—— Closet.

It may be here observed, that if *I had not acted according to my Instructions*, or had been wanting in any part of a good *Intelligencer*, I durst not have presumed to have desired this *Interview*.

*The*



*The Minutes with his Gr-ge the D— of S— on  
Tuesday the 25th of February in the Secre-  
tary's Office.*

1. Your Gr-ge may see, said I, that what I have so often writ does now evidently appear to be true. Mr. V— did me the justice to acquaint his Gr-ge that I had been with him about that *Business*.

2. Now, may it please your Gr-ge, is a good time to make it appear for the satisfaction of the Parliament and Nation, that an *Insurrection* and *Invasion* was and is also intended: which will appear by seizing those Arms in *Warwickshire* that I formerly gave you notice of; your Gr-ge hath by you an Instruction which I sent you above a year ago. His Gr-ge made Answer, that *he did not know where he had laid it*. My L-d D-ke, I write nothing to your Gr-ge but what I keep Copies of by me for my justification. I have a Copy of that Instruction in my Closet in *White-Hall*, and I will immediately fetch it. His Gr-ge was pleased to say that the morrow would be time enough: in pursuance to Command I gave the next day to Mr. V— a Copy of that In-  
struction

struction where the Arms lays in *Warwickshire*, which had been so long conceal'd. *Vid.* page 51, 52.

3. I then told his Gr-ce that Mr. *Holmes* lay with me the night before, and I entertained him, and gave him a Guinea when he went away: Mr. *V---* reply'd, Why did not you secure him? *Sir*, it is not my business, a Reward of a thousand pound will take him; that's the way to destroy my Intelligence, my business is to preserve it. My L--d D-ke said I was in the right.

4. I then moved his Gr-ce for some Money; his Gr-ce said I should have some: the next day when Mr. *V---* met me at the *Back-stairs* for a Copy of the Instructions to seize the Arms, he brought me a Bill of 20*l.* the same in date which I had before rejected *with his advice*: Upon which I was concern'd; he told me I should have more, and then we parted. I moved his Gr-ce for 100 Guineas, and he did not seem to deny them.

*It is here to be noted, that this 20*l.* Bill makes up the Sum of 80 *l.* which is all that ever I received from his Gr-ce: And there are now Arms lodg'd in the Tower, which were*  
I *seiz'd*



*seized purely by my Discovery, of a far greater Value.*

5. At this Meeting my L— D—ke, but more particularly Mr. V—, press'd me for Hewet, who was one of my Intelligencers, that they might have him; I told them I could not spare him as yet, but promis'd I would be answerable for him, and they were contented.

*It may here be observ'd, that the Arms which I discover'd were not found in that part of the House I directed to; they were removed to one Mr. Heywood's at Callidown: and it was but reasonable to believe they would be remov'd, when a Proclamation was issued out against Sir William. But the same quantity of Arms were return'd from Callidown, and buried by the Servants under a Garden Wall of Sir William Parkyns's House in Warwickshire, and were there found and seized, and, as I am inform'd, are now in his Majesty's Stores in the Tower. This fully demonstrated the intended Insurrection not only to have been at that time, but likewise that it was intended, if matters had been agreed, at the time when I first discovered them. Sir William at his Trial confesses*

*confesses that those Arms had been there near two years.*

*The Insurrection or intended Invasion has not been more evidently and circumstantially prov'd, than by my discovering those Arms, which Discovery is purely owing to me.*

*General Passages.*

I daily sent to the Office, to know if they had any Commands for me, or any matter to Inquire into that I could give an account of. What I was at any time asked, I let them know; and I was well receiv'd.

On *Sunday* the first of *March* I waited on Mr. *V*— at his House; where he told me that my L—d D—ke very much desired *Hewet*. Take my word, *Sir*, said I, you shall have him. I then gave him Instructions to seize him, and accordingly he was taken the next day.

Mr. *V*— express'd himself thus: *Sir*, you see what care we take to conceal you. I thank'd him, and told him I would never desire any Preferment from the King, that I might for ever serve him; being confident, if I had a sufficient Support for *Intelligence*, to break the neck of all succeeding Plots. *Sir*, the Discovery of this Plot hath been of great service to the King, as well as the preserving his



his Life. And now if this Plot be rightly managed, it will settle the King very firmly in his Throne. I then desired him to give my Duty to his Gr-*ce*, and let him know that he should have *Hewet*, and that I never failed him in my Promise.

*It is to be observ'd that I never had any Jealousy, but that the King knew of all my Proceedings; and so I did not press to wait on his Majesty as yet.*

After *Hewet* was taken, Mr. *V*— then desired me to draw up Interrogatories to examine him upon: which I did as followeth. *Hewet* was taken about the 3<sup>d</sup> of March 1695.

*Interrogat. per John Hewet, Nephew to Mr. Holmes, and to Major Holmes.*

1. Whether the said *Hewet* does know the Persons mention'd in the Proclamation, *viz.* Sir George Barclay, Chernock, Holmes, Porter, &c. and also whether he hath not been imploy'd by them to appoint Meetings at Taverns, and carry them Letters to and from France as often as they were brought over by the private Boat?

2. Whe-

2. Whether he was not at several Consultations, when Orders were brought from *France* to assassinate the King, or to carry him off?

3. Whether he does know of the Provision that was made for the executing that horrid Design, as the buying Horses, Saddles, and other Furniture; and who were the Persons contributing or assisting in the Expence, and in keeping the Horses?

4. Whether he did know the Time and Place to act or perform the horrid Crime of assassinating the King?

5. Whether he was not the Person that carried out the Tickets for quartering the Persons, and the Arms to each Person concern'd in the aforementioned intended Act; and how it came to pass that *Saturday* the Day resolv'd on to put their evil Design in execution, went off, and was deferr'd till another day, when the King went out to hunt or shoot; and whether one *Chambers* did not lodg at *Kensington*, to give notice from time to time of the Day the King was to hunt?



6. Whether he knew of the Duke of Berwick's being in Town, and whether Sir George Barclay was made a Major General by Commission from the late King, and to command as the principal Actor or Commander in the Horrid Design?

7. Whether he does know the Names of the Persons who have received Commissions from France, as Colonels, Lieutenant Colonels, Captains? &c.

8. Whether he does know where Horses and Arms are concealed, that were for the putting in execution that Horrid Design, and also to go in to the French, had there been an Invasion?

9. Whether he does know what Money was paid weekly or monthly to several of the Assassins, and who bought the Horses for them who had not Money of their own?

*He must be told of some Persons, as that they have confessed these things: for he carried the Letters to Persons of Quality, Gentlemen, &c.*

After

After this I put in several Instructions and Interrogatories to examine Capt. Stow. In a little time I did not find the Reception I expected: I went to visit the D—ke, who was either ill or busy. And then I writ the following Letters, to know if there was any Commands for me.

To Mr. V---

S I R,

I Was last night to wait on you; and if you have any Commands, I am at the Backstairs. I beg a time to be fix'd, that I may wait on my L—d D—ke: I assure you, I am very uneasy, until I pay my Duty to his Gr-ce. This I may venture to say, I have done nothing to deserve a Slight: what I have done may be of great service. I have always said, if I was to wait on the King, I can and will justify what I have done. I am,

S I R,

March 6.

95.

Your, &c.

I 4

May



*May it please your Gr-ce;*

**I** Now think with my self, I am like a Man that has beat the *Bush*, and lost the *Game*; for I do not find that kind usage I expected, but slight. I cannot believe it proceeds from any thing but your Gr-ce's great hurry in Business: Nothing can give me satisfaction, but the liberty to wait on your Gr-ce to justify what I have done. This I am sure of, that nothing I have either said or done, but hath in a great measure prov'd true. And I have been the *first Intelligencer*, and nothing could have appear'd otherwise, if my Measures had been taken; therefore I humbly beg that I may have liberty to wait on your Gr-ce. I have run my self in debt to serve his Majesty; and a Settlement, I hope, will not be denied me, that I may be for ever serviceable. I am sure, my L--d D—ke, it is not in your nature to be unkind to me, who have been truly just, by the *timely notice I have given*, as will appear by my Letters: and (tho to the prejudice of my own Family) I must be crush'd, if I do not wait on the King to know his Pleasure, and what I may depend on. Whatever is further necessary for me to do, that I may not be known, I am ready to do when required, that may be of service. I humbly give  
your

your Gr-ce most hearty thanks for the Secrecy I have hitherto met with. I beg to know by Mr. V--- to morrow when I may wait on your Gr-ce: I am,

Your Gr-ce's

March 7. 1695.

Most, &c.

Immediately after I had sent the aforesaid Letter into the Office, finding that I was like to receive no Commands that night, I retired to my Lodging, which then was in *Red-Lyon-Square*. I had not been very long at home, before I heard a great knocking at the Door, and a mighty noise of People: the Gentlewoman of the House, upon enquiry into the occasion of so much *thundering* at her Door, soon found that there was a *Messenger* and several Soldiers, with a *Constable*, who demanded entrance into the House; she came and consulted me in it; I advised her to open the Door: So soon as the Door was open, there *rusbed* into my Room a *Messenger* and several Soldiers, with Swords and Pistols in their hands; the *Messenger* told me that he was order'd to seize me, and immediately search'd my Pockets and the Room for Papers: I was very much surprized at the thing, and reason'd the Affair with the *Messenger*, and let him know that he must be under some mistake, for I was not a  
man



man in the least suspected, and that the last place I came from was the Secretary's Office. The *Messenger* replied that he was under no mistake; for he was order'd to seize one Captain *Smith*, who lodg'd in that House. Since you say so, said I, to shew you that I am not afraid of any thing, I will seal up those Papers you have got, and *subscribe my Name upon them*: you must be mistaken in your Man; for there is another Capt. *Smith*, who lives in a Street near this Square. The *Messenger* perceiving that I was no ways *daunted*, concluded I was not the Man. He leaves a Guard of Soldiers upon me, and then went to search for the other *Smith* whom he soon found; then the *Messenger* was please to take off my *Guard*, and sent back my Papers. The next day I went down to *Whitehall*, to secure my Papers in my Lodgings there from the like attempt, lest I might again be so *ruffled*. I dined at *Whitehall* (it was on *Sunday*;) when I was at dinner, the *Messenger* came to me again, and told me I was the right *Smith*; that the other was set at liberty, and I must *instantly* go to the Office: when I came there, I asked the reason why I was thus used; *I never hid*, but either came, or daily sent to know their Commands. At last it was told me that I must confront *Hewet*: Is this all? there need not have been this trouble to oblige me; I  
am

am always ready to serve the King; pray discharge me out of *Custody*, and I will attend you at your hour. The *Messenger* was dismiss, and I was order'd to attend at six in the evening: Which I did, and confronted *Hewet* upon the foregoing *Interrogatories*.

### *General Passages.*

1. After I had confronted *Hewet*, and understood Mr. *Ferguson* was taken, I then desir'd, by Letter to Mr. *V—*, dated the 9th of *March*, to confront *Hewet* with *Ferguson* before the Council; *Hewet* having been *Ferguson's* disperse of his Books, and knew most of his Concerns. I receiv'd no answer in that Affair.

2. When I put in *Interrogatories* to examine Captain *Stow*, Mr. *V—* asked me if I would confront him? I reply'd, I was willing, provided the D-ke desired it.

3. When Sir *William Parkyns* was condemned, I desired Mr. *V—* to let me have an Order to visit him, by reason I thought it might be for the King's Service. He made me answer, that there was an Order that his Relations might see him. When I waited on the Lady *Parkyns*,



*Parkyns*, in order to see Sir *William*, she told me, that notwithstanding the General Order for his Relations to see him; there was a private one to the contrary, and no one could see him but her self.

4. I then went to the D--- of S—— to beg leave, and also to back a Petition which his Grace the Duke of *Norfolk* was pleased to promise me to present to his Majesty, that Sir *William's* Relations might have leave to see him; alledging therein, that it would be for the King's Service.

Mr. *V---* acquainted me, that my L--d D— was ill, and that it was not convenient for me to appear in the matter. I answer'd, that I was sure it would be for his Majesty's Service, for by this means I could get a direct Intelligence from *France*. I could not obtain it.

*A Copy of that Letter which I sent to his Gr-ce, which occasion'd Mr. V— to come to me.*

*May it please your Gr-ce;*

I Do in the humblest manner beg I may be admitted to your Gr-ce's presence, and that immediately; and I doubt not but what  
I

I have to offer will be pleasing. My Credit is low with the *Malecontents*, and now an opportunity offers it self, whereby I may recover my Credit, and for ever have a good Correspondence directly from *France*. One of the things I have to propose, I doubt not but to get it seconded by the Duke of *Norfolk*; which if granted, will give the Party no jealousy of me, having had the honour to know his Grace for many Years.

I am,

March 30.  
1696.

Your Gr-cc's

Most, &c.

The Lady *Parkyns* apply'd her self to me, by order of Sir *William*, to desire me to sollicite the Duke of *Norfolk* to get him a Reprieve; which 'tis plain shews he had no jealousy of me: I told this to Mr. *V—*. I cannot omit in this place to acquaint the Reader with what Zeal that most Noble Duke espoused this Affair, when I told him that I was in hopes that a Reprieve, and liberty for his Relations to see him, might probably work upon Sir *William's Temper* to make an ingenuous Confession, which would be greatly for the King's



King's Service. The thoughts of that so *animated* his Grace, that he shew'd himself very active and ready, and nothing was wanting on his part.

After many Letters, and a most tiresome attendance, I saw the D— of S ——— by chance. Upon my making application to him, I receiv'd only this Answer, *That he had been very kind to me already.* I answer'd, that I had not yet receiv'd any Kindness.

### O B S E R V A T I O N S.

Before the last time when I waited on the D— of S——, I shew'd my late Colonel the Duke of *Norfolk* some of my Letters which concerned the Plot; they were those which discover the whole Design, *viz.* the Letter which mentions the Persons Names, and the manner of putting the said horrid Design in execution. Upon which his Grace was infinitely pleased, when he found I had been so faithful and serviceable to his Majesty and his Government; and very much wonder'd that I was not presented to the King. I told him that the D— of S—— was full of business, and humbly begg'd his Grace would be pleased

to

to do me that Favour. His Grace was pleased to say he would; but first order'd me to wait on the D— of S—, to know when his Gr-cc would introduce me to the King's Presence, and that if his Gr-cc's Business did not permit him time, that the Duke of *Norfolk* would do me that honour. In Obedience to this advice, I waited on the D--- of S—, but could get no opportunity to speak to him fully of my Business, and only receiv'd the slight Answer before related.

When I acquainted the Duke of *Norfolk* what Answer I had receiv'd, his Grace was amazed to find me so ill used for so great Services: his Grace was pleased to give me the seasonable advice to preserve my Papers, and to make an Interest with the Earl of *Portland*, the Earl of *Rumney*, or Mr. *Keppel* now Earl of *Albemarle*, and his Grace would second any one of them, and give an account of me. I waited on Mr. *Keppel* to sollicite him to deliver to the King the following Letter, together with a Copy of my Letters of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of *February* 1695. which related to the Plot. My Lord *Albemarle* took the Letters; but the next day when I waited on him again, he returned them, and told me that it was then too late, for the King was a going within a day or two to *Flanders*.

What



*What passed between the Right Honourable the then Earl of Monmouth Lord of the Bedchamber in waiting, and my self upon this occasion, need not be repeated here, since the Reader may find it in the Introduction.*

*A Copy of that Letter which was intended for the King.*

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

*May it please your Majesty;*

**H**AVING had the honour to command in Windsor-Castle, when your Majesty first came into *England*, and to serve your Majesty as a Captain under his Grace the Duke of *Norfolk*, in the Regiment he raised for your Majesty's Service: And being related to some and acquainted with others whom I justly suspected to be your Majesty's Enemies, I have, as in Duty bound, endeavour'd to dive into the deepest of their Designs; and accordingly have given an account of their Proceedings for fifteen months past, to his Grace the Duke of *S—*, your Majesty's Principal Secretary of State. As for instance, How they had provided Arms in *December 1694.* and the Place where they were concealed. I have diligently

ligently traced their Motions ever since, and acquainted his Gr-ce with them gradually, and particularly of their Design against your Majesty's Person ; and the Names of them that were to have been *Principal Actors therein*, as will appear by the two Letters I have inclosed, which I sent to his Gr-ce. I likewise hinted to his Gr-ce to seize the Arms that were concealed in *Warwickshire* for the *Invasion*. I have several other matters of *moment* to offer to your Majesty's consideration, whenever your Majesty pleases to command my attendance. I am now ruin'd by contracting Debts for Intelligence, (having receiv'd but eighty ponnas from his Gr-ce) unless your Majesty will be graciously pleased to grant me your protection, and such a Support as I may not become a *scorn* to your Majesty's Enemies.

That your Majesty may have a long and *prosperous* Reign, shall be the daily Prayer of him, that humbly begs to know your Majesty's Pleasure, and leave to subscribe himself,

Your Majesty's

April 30.  
1696.

Most humble, &c.

On the 19th of May I writ the following Letter to his Gr-ce the D— of S— for my  
K Pension ;



*Pension; and I receiv'd Answer, that he would see me the next morning. According to command I went to wait on his Gr-ce, and then was order'd to attend him as the next day at nine in the morning. In obedience to that order I went again, which was on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 1696. After I had sent up my Name, Mr. V—— came to me, and took me with him into an inner Parlour. The Minutes of that Day are inserted after the Letter to his Gr-ce.*

*May it please your Exc-ll cy;*

**H**AVING receiv'd many Assurances of the continuance of your Gr-ce's Favour and Protection, I am emboldened humbly to beg your Exc-ll-cy will order me *that quarterly Allowance you were pleased by your Letter to assure me of.* I cannot doubt but your Exc-ll-cy will protect me from becoming a Scorn and Derision to his Majesty's Enemies, which my present Necessities will expose me to, without your Exc-ll-cy's immediate Assistance, having spent my All in endeavouring to prevent that *fatal Stroke* design'd against his Majesty's Person and Government. And I assure your Exc-ll cy (being greater with the Party now than ever) that I shall make it my business to circumvent  
all

*all their future Endeavours, and give your Exc-ll-cy frequent Accounts of such Intrigues and Cabals as they are hereafter engag'd in, that I may ever justly entitle my self to the honour of being*

Your Exc-ll-cy's

May 19.  
1696.

Most, &c.

*The Minutes with Mr. V—, at his Gr-ce the D— of S— House, May 21. 1696.*

1. Mr. V— told me, that *he wonder'd at my coming there.* I answer'd, that I came by appointment from the D-ke to receive his Gr-ce's Answer to my Letter. He was pleas'd to say, that he had heard it discours'd that I intended to accuse the D-ke; as also that I had declar'd, that *I was the first Person that discover'd the Plot*; and as if the D-ke went out of Town upon it, and kept the matter concealed, and never acquainted the King with it. And that he believ'd I now came not out of love or respect to the D-ke, or with any intention to continue my Friendship, and advis'd me to have a care, for the D-ke was a great Man.



2. In answer, I confess'd I did declare I was the first Intelligencer of Affairs for fifteen months, and that I told it to a Person in the Government, one whom I understood to be a Zealot for it: And at the same time I gave him some Instructions to take Sir *George Barclay* and Major *Holmes*. But I did not pretend to accuse the D-ke; then believing that his Gr-*ce* only concealed me according to promise, that I might not be exposed by being an Evidence. And I did not declare my self till after I was confronted with *Hewet*, and he was not restrain'd from writing.

3. Mr. *V*— told me, I had industriously left Copies of Papers in my Closet, with a Design they might be taken on purpose to expose his Gr-*ce*; and that I could not expect great matters upon such usage, and that I had a design to accuse his Gr-*ce*. And then threaten'd me, and very much question'd me, whether I did not make it my business to expose his Gr-*ce*; that he had heard of such a Report. But the D-ke, he said, did not believe I would deal so by him. And then run on to lessen my Services, as that I had only a *dim sight* of things, and they could never make any thing of my Letters.

4. In

4. In answer to the Papers which were left in my Closet ; I acquainted him that I had been hunted from Lodging to Lodging, and my Circumstances were very hard to be left unprovided, and exposed to all Dangers. The Landlord of the House where I lay, when he understood I was Nephew to Sir *William Parkyns*, told me and my Servant, that there were Warrants out against me, and that so dangerous a Man must not lodg there. When I went away to avoid being taken, I took with me all or most of my Papers ; and it was unknown to me that any were left behind. As to his Threats, I told him I did not value them, declaring that they had undone me for serving the Government. I am a Gentleman, continu'd I, and do not stand in fear of any Duke or Lord in Christendom ; for what I have done is honest and just. I have serv'd the King from the first faithfully ; and *at the rate I am used*, no Prince hereafter will have any Person to serve him. And since you have undone me, I do not value Life or Liberty : Of all the men in the World, I did not expect such usage from the D-ke, for whom I have always had a profound honour and respect, and still have. As to an Accusation, I assured him, I never intended it, which evidently appear'd by my making this fresh Application to him : and



what I had writ for *was but what I had his hand for*. Then as to my Services, I told Mr. V— that what I had done was most valuable, as being the earliest, and that I acted purely for the *preservation* of the *Nation*. What others have done did not proceed from a good Principle, but upon *disgusts* and *fear* of *each other*. And lastly, as to my dim-sighted Letters, I presumed they were as plain and as full to be understood as those *Chairs* are known to be *Chairs* (I then pointed to the *Chairs* in the Room.)

As first, I have traced the matter down to the time, both as to the *Descent*, and also the intended *Affassination*; and I gave an account on the fifth of *January*, that I was employ'd to know the number of Guards, and to get a List of the Forces, and Colonels names, &c. And I further told him that I *personally* acquainted my L—d D—ke of the Design against the King on the tenth of *February* in the Room above, (pointing to the Room.)

Sir, continued I, you cannot forget the Letter that contains the whole Design; as that it was concluded to be put in execution with the first opportunity. The Persons Names, (*viz.*) Sir George Barclay, Major Holmes, Capt. Chernock, Porter, Chambers and Boyse, with an &c. and their *Titles*. You cannot forget this; which Mr. V— did own. Sir, I am better vers'd in the Affairs of the World

\*

than

than to be so much a fool to write such a Letter, and sign it too, if I could not have made it out; if the Secretary did not believe it, he should have punished me: you cannot but own that I have writ nothing but what is come to pass, &c.

5. Mr. V—— told me that Sir *William Parkyns* and *Chernock*, &c. did not trust me.

That is apparently otherwise, said I, for how could I have given an Account of the Arms so long ago, and since that of the Journey to *Leicester*? Besides, I was the only Person at the concealing the Arms, &c. and I was employ'd by Sir *William* to treat with Mr. *Cr-v-n* to accept a Lieut. Colonel's Command.

As to Mr. *Chernock*, he was my School-fellow and great Acquaintance; and don't my Letters to the D-ke declare that *Chernock* was to buy my Horse, Furniture? &c. If it was doubted, why was it not enquired into then? Lastly, as to my appearing as an Evidence, my Agreement was to the contrary, and I was not desired to be a Witness. I further told him that the Arms which were seized in *Warwickshire* were exact in number, according to the account which I gave in fifteen Months before, when I moved for the seizing of them; and those Arms, said I, you now have.



6. After I had argued Affairs in all Particulars, standing upon the merits of my Services, he was pleased to repeat again the Accusation, and my Obligations to the D-ke, and whether I was not upon some Design, and told me again that he heard such a Report. I then desired Mr. V— to tell me what he had heard in the plainest sense, and what I had done I would own. He repeated the matter as before related, and I own'd as before: Only I added this Particular; You may remember, said I, that you asked me in the Office before the Earl of M--cl--sf--ld, whether I had owned my Intelligence: I confess'd it, and did declare, if it was not convenient, I would be more *cautious* for the *future*. But I did never say that I would accuse the D—. After this I let him know that I was sincere according to the purport of my Letter, and gave him Reasons why I apply'd then, really believing that my L—d D— had a kindness for me, and kept me so long in suspense, only that the World might not discover *that I was the first Intelligencer*, that I might the better continue my Service. And I assured him I did esteem the D—of S— more than any other of the Nobility I was acquainted with; otherwise I would not have apply'd to him.

7. Mr.

7. Mr. V— told me I had but one way to give his Gr-ce satisfaction, which was by something in writing. I reply'd *that I was the first Intelligencer*, and that I wonder'd I did not see his Gr-ce when I was sent for. He was pleased to tell me that his Gr-ce was ill, and it was only his *Indisposition* that hindered his Gr-ce from seeing me, and that I would do well to give his Gr-ce satisfaction. I answer'd Mr. V— that I came to pay my service to his Gr-ce : And is this all the Answer to my Letter, said I ? Then I told him they had undone me, and I could not stay in Town ; however I hoped they would allow me a protection. Mr. V— reply'd, I need not be so hasty, and intimated the D—'s kindness to me. I answer'd that I had not yet received any ; what is now and then 20 l. a Sum that is of little use to me ? When I came away, I desired Mr. V— to give my Duty to his Gr-ce, and that I would be always ready to serve him.

*That there should be nothing wanting on my part, I writ the following Letter to his Gr-ce.*

*My L—d D--ke ;*

**W**HEN your Exc-ll-cy is oppress'd with business, I can hardly hope to speak to your self, but believe your Gr-ce will  
not



not think it unreasonable, that after all my endeavours to serve the Government, I should at least be able to subsist: for any thing of Recompence that I might expect from your Favour, I willingly shall attend the King's return; and only desire your Exc-ll-ncy will appoint the payment of the Allowance *you were pleased to order me quarterly*, of which there is due half a year. I trouble your Gr-ace with as few words as I can, and only necessity makes me write these, which I hope your Exc-ll-ncy will excuse from

July 14.  
96.

Your Exc-ll-ncy's

Most, &c.

Some REASONS modestly offer'd to believe that this Correspondence was never made known to the King.

1. It is presumed that the Accounts which I have given in, have not been laid before the King or his Cabinet-Council: if they had, certainly his Majesty would have personally known me, or at least have order'd me Money to dispose and lay out, as I saw necessary, for the preventing so horrid a Design, and the involving a whole Nation in blood.

2. If

2. If I had been known, it's reasonable to believe, that upon Mr. *Pendergrafs* and Mr. *De la Rue*'s coming in, I should have been sent for to know if I had known any thing of them, or believ'd them to be of the number of the *Conspirators*.

3. That if I had been known to the King, or my Accounts gave in, Mr. *Pendergrafs* and Mr. *De la Rue*'s Informations of the matter would have been immediately believ'd, without reasoning the Affair with them: His Majesty having been before prepared, by the daily Informations which I gave in of that Design to his Secretary of State.

4. That if my Informations had been given in, his Majesty had not then so great an Obligation to Mr. *Pendergrafs*, having been before inform'd of the matter; then he and the rest of the *Conspirators* which fell in, would have been looked upon, as they really were, Enemies to his Majesty's Person and Government: And what they then did would have been accounted to proceed more out of fear or jealousy of each other, than out of a real Love or Affection to his Majesty's Person and Government.

5. If my Accounts were given in, certainly the King would have known, and esteem'd  
me



me the *first* and *principal Discoverer* of that horrid Plot, who had made it my business to search into the Secrets of his Enemies, purely for his Majesty's safety, and the preservation of his Government; and have had my Services laid before him, by which it would have appear'd, that I had traced all the Designs of his Enemies, not only as to the *Descent*, but also the *Affassination*, and *Insurrection*, which was demonstrated by the Arms that were seized, and the Accounts of the *Division* of the *Faction* into *Parties*, and confirming the *Lancashire Plot*. And his Majesty would have been assured of my Ability for ever to serve his Person and Government.

REASONS to believe that the D---- of S---- was very well satisfy'd with my Integrity and Ability to serve the Government: And that he did not doubt the truth of what I writ.

1. That if his Gr-ce had not believ'd the Accounts I gave him, as in the first Minutes, he would not have immediately employ'd me, or have been satisfy'd without a Recommendation from the Duke of *Norfolk*, which I offer'd; nor have settled a Method for his Correspondence with me.

2. If

2. If his Gr-ce had mistrusted the Truth of my Discovery of the Arms in *December 1694.* he would then have punish'd me ; whereas it is evident he believ'd that matter by his sending a Bill of 20 *l.* tho short of his *great Promises,* as appears by a Letter under his Gr-ce's *own hand,* dated the 11<sup>th</sup> of *December 1694.*

3. If the D—— of S—— had not believ'd me, he would have rejected all the Letters that came from me ; otherwise he would not have promised to recommend me to the King at a second Meeting, as he had done before.

4. In *December 95:* upon making a Visit to the D——, if his Gr-ce had not thought me able to serve the King, he would not have immediately engag'd my Service again, and the next day sent me by my Servant a Bill of 20 *l.* with an Assurance under his Gr-ce's *own hand to continue that Sum to me quarterly, with a Promise of a Reward for every particular Service discover'd by my means.*

5. If his Gr-ce had not believ'd my Account of the *Descent,* and what I hinted on the 5<sup>th</sup> of *January 95.* and the Accounts I gave into Mr. V—— of *Holmes, the Descent, &c.* certainly he would never have sent me on the 20<sup>th</sup> of *January* a Bill of 20 *l.* by Mr. V——.

6. If



6. If they had doubted whether I could have help'd them to seize *Holmes*, as it was once agreed on, why did not they exact that Person? I was willing to have him taken, and they went off. It is past all question they believ'd I could have perform'd my Promise, otherwise they would not have continued my Service.

7. If his Grace had doubted the truth of the *Descent*, which I gave him an account of in Person on the 10th of February 95. and also the Design against the King's Person, &c. why did not he then question the truth, but on the contrary declare his belief of that matter, and then promise me Money to provide for my going on in business?

8. That if they did not believe the truth of my Relations, why did they so often treat with, and send me Letters, with promises of Reward?

9. If they did not believe my Intelligence, why did they exact a more full Account, and send 20 l. in order to equip me; and upon representing that Sum too little, to desire to know what was necessary?

10. After the Discovery of the Plot, if I had not all along given them in a true and  
an

an exact account of all particulars; as the *Conspirators Names; the Designs to be put in- to execution with the first Opportunity, &c.* Why did not they at that time punish me, for being wanting in my Intelligence? &c. From thence it is reasonable to conclude that I did give them in very *full and early* Accounts of that *execrable* Plot.

11. That if I had not so done, it is most certain his Gr-*ce* would not have receiv'd me after into his Office, or have taken further Instructions from me for the seizing the Arms in *Warwickshire*, and upon my request sent me the next day by Mr. *V*— a Bill of 20 *l*.

### O B J E C T I O N.

If it should be *objected*, That several of the above-written Letters they never receiv'd, and that these Letters are *forg'd* and *new*; or that they never receiv'd such Accounts as are here incerted.

In Answer, let them produce the Letters that occasion'd his Gr-*ce* to write, and also those Letters Mr. *V*— answered by command from his Gr-*ce*; and then it will *evidently appear, past all Contradiction, that these are true Copies of the Letters now in their Hands.*

And as to those Letters which are not answer'd, it will appear to any unprejudiced Person



Person that they were also receiv'd ; it being observable that they run all upon the same Affairs with those answered.

For the further satisfaction of the Reader I do here protest, as I have already done in the Preface, that these *Memoirs* are compiled from an *Original Manuscript*, which was writ by the advice of a Friend from the original Letters, above seven or eight Months before they were deliver'd into the *House of Lords* : Where the Reader may also compare these *Memoirs* with the Originals, which are now lodg'd in that *House*. But too much has been said upon this Head already.

As nothing is of more conviction, than a *Note under a Man's own hand* ; so nothing can be more expected to prove the truth of this Correspondence than the Letters under their own hands. From whence it may be concluded that they received all the aforesaid Accounts which were given in by the several Letters in these *Memoirs*.

In short, here is as *evident* Proof, and as many *Circumstances* of the truth of this Correspondence, as the nature of so *secret* an Affair will admit.

T H E E N D.

T H E  
R E A S O N S

Why I corresponded with  
Mr. *J O H N H E W E T*:

*In a Letter to a Friend, to convince him  
that I never received any News that was  
written from the Post-Boy.*

S I R,

**I**T has been maliciously reported that the great Services I have done the King and his Government, are but trivial and of little value: And that I received my Intelligence from one who made it his business to collect News out of the *Post-Boy*, with no other design than to get Money out of me, under a pretence of having received the same from *France*: That he was a person altogether ignorant in Affairs, and was no ways let into any considerable Secret. All this has frequently been urged to invalidate my Services; upon which Subject I have a fair occasion to expatiate, if I thought my *Memoirs* had not done  
L it



it sufficiently to my hands. I could likewise inform you of all the persons Names from whom I have had Intelligence, before and after I came acquainted with Mr. *J. H.* but at this time I shall only endeavour to convince you that I never had to do with any such person, who made it his business to write News out of the *Post-Boy*.

I will here give you an account of what I receiv'd at several times from Mr. *Hewet*, relating to the last Plot, which I will throw into as little room as is possible : As also the reasons which induced me to enter into a Correspondence with him, together with the time and place where it was my fortune to be acquainted with him. Towards the Conclusion of this Relation I will answer all the Objections, which I suppose can be raised against me for using him as my Instrument. But first of all I must inform you that I did not correspond with him without permission. So then when you have run over the whole Proceedings, I make no question but they will give you that satisfaction, as to judg he was a person not altogether unacquainted with the *deepest Mysteries*, being intrusted by the most *eminent* Leaders of the *Jacobite Faction*, and consequently a fit person to be entertain'd by me upon this occasion.

One of the *principal* Motives which induced me to a Correspondence with Mr. John Hewet, was to find out the *Labyrinths* and *mysterious Windings* of a Man that will be *eternally famous* in all the *Annals* of *Conspirators*, called *Uncle*, otherwise *Frg-f-n*. As 'tis impossible for this *Luciferian Priest*, or *Salamander*, to live out of the Fire, it made me the more ambitious to entertain his *Confident*, that I might trace his *Macchiavellian* Intrigues; and in searching after them I had all the just Suspensions in the world to make me conclude that I had found an *old Roman* Agent wrapt up in a *Geneva* Charter, according to the received *Maxims* of the Church of *Rome*, which makes no difficulty to give her *Emissaries* permission to put up what *Colours*, and wear what *Disguises* they please, *provided* it advances the Interest of the *Holy See*. This *Composition* of *Iniquity*, who always acted in *Masquerade*, and indeed is a *Bane* to all *Civil Societies* and *Governments*, tho he has proved the unhappy occasion of bringing several of his *Companions* to an infamous *Exit*, yet by what fate I know not, has all along made a shift to keep himself out of the *Briars*, like the *Cat* who made use of the *Monkey's* Foot to pull the *Chestnuts* out of the Fire, in order to save her own from burning. I cannot but *admire* at the folly of the *Malecontents*, that they should be so *stupid* as



it sufficiently to my hands. I could likewise inform you of all the persons Names from whom I have had Intelligence, before and after I came acquainted with Mr. *J. H.* but at this time I shall only endeavour to convince you that I never had to do with any such person, who made it his business to write News out of the *Post-Boy*.

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to take into their Faction such a notorious *Hypocrite*, upon his *cajoling* them to believe that he could do them extraordinary Service by his *Billingsgate* Stile, which he *pretended* had work'd such *Wonders* in the two *preceding* *Reigns*. For his Books are generally *stuf*t with such *fulsom* and *notorious* Untruths, that they cannot stand the *Test* of any *reasonable* man; he sculks in a Corner to write, and then comes out *incognito*, being conscious to himself that *R. F.* in the Title-page is sufficient to discredit whatever drops from so malicious a Pen. When this walking *Amsterdam* of Religions was justly spew'd out of the Government, he made his first flight to the *Melfordian* Faction, and only herded with those hot-headed Men, they best suting his *Genius*; for Plotting, and Faction, is his darling Study and Delight: in short, he is turbulent and uneasy in all Governments. Whilst the late horrid Plot was in *Agitation*, I could not believe upon the first Intelligence I received of that Matter, that there were to be found so *great* a number of *Villains* as were thought necessary to execute so *barbarous* a Design. I was amaz'd at first, when I understood the *number* rose so *high*, and seiz'd with *admiration* that one *Age* should produce so many *Monsters*; but I ceas'd to wonder, when I was informed that *Uncle* was often in their *infernal* Cabals, and entertained his *Disciples*

*ciples* with preparatory Discourses on the Subject of *King-killing Doctrines*, to work them up to a *Temper* to receive any *Impression*. In order to execute this *damnable* Design, this *Firebrand* (as his *Confident* told me) writ that scurrilous Pamphlet called the *Depredation-Book*, to prepare the way to it, by casting therein most *scandalous* and lying *Reflections* on His Majesty's Person and Government. But what is more *execrable*, he had also a Book in *embrio*, which was to have *sanctify'd* the *Villany*, in case the Conspirators had succeeded in that *horrid Design*. I must beg your Pardon, Sir, if you think this borders too much upon the common *Topicks* of *Satyr* and *Invective*; and that I have suffer'd my self to be carried too far by my *Resentments*: for I must freely own to you that I am not able to be Master of my usual *Temper*, when such a *finished System* of Wickedness comes in my way.

To justify this Assertion, about the latter part of *September*, or the beginning of *October* 1695, I was at Sir *William Parkyns's* House at *Bushey* in *Hertfordshire*, where I came acquainted with Mr. *Holmes*, commonly called *Old-England*, who had been there all that Summer. I had not been at Sir *William's* House above two or three days, before Mr. *John Hewet* Nephew to the said *Holmes*, came from *London* with Letters for Sir *William* and his Uncle *Holmes*. The said Letters came from abroad,



with the news of Affairs that were then stirring. The said *Hewet* at that time also brought to Sir *William* and Mr. *Holmes* a Bundle of *Libels*, intituled, *Advice to the Country in their electing of Members for the ensuing Parliament*. These *Libels* were then to be dispers'd about the Country.

Sir *William*, after he had read one of these Pamphlets, told Mr. *Holmes* and me, that he did not much approve of the Book. Upon this I was curious to know the Author: Sir *William* frankly told me that it was *F.-rg.-f.-n.* I seem'd amaz'd, and replied, that *I could hardly believe that F.-rg.-f.-n was one of us.* Sir *William*, and Mr. *Holmes* both told me, that he was a *true Convert*, and did K. *James* great service by his writing: that he was reconciled to the King, and much in his favour; that he had brought several over to the late King's Interest, and had a Pardon for his former Offences.

Sir *William Parkyns's* House being full at this time, he desired me to admit of Mr. *Hewet* to take part of a Bed with me, letting me know that he was a sensible young man, and one that he had a great value for.

Finding Mr. *Hewet* thus trusted and esteemed, and also that he might be very useful to me in the *Secret Service*, I immediately entered into an acquaintance with him, and found him very inclinable, and also able to resolve me  
any

any Question which I put to him, or had at any time before receiv'd from others in obscure terms. Now being intimate with him, I desired to know how long *F-rg-f-n* had been one of our Party, and whether he was really the Author of the Pamphlet he brought to Sir *William*; and wherein *F-rg-f-n* had done, or could do us any service, he having been one who was always accounted one of King *James's* Enemies, and came over with the present King: *For my part*, said I, *I rather believe him to be a Spie than a Friend.*

*Mr. Hewet* answer'd, that he had been a considerable time of the Party, and had written several bitter and *satyrical* things against the Government, and at that time was forc'd to hide, by reason they supposed him to be the Author of several Pamphlets lately published, which they concluded to be his by the Stile. *Mr. Hewet* then named to me a Dialogue *between the K. the E— of P—, and Madam V—*, and *Glenco's Case*, with others which I have now forgot, written all by *F-rg-f-n*, as also the Pamphlet he then brought down. He further told me, there was but one besides himself that knew where *F-rg-f-n* lodg'd, that he never went out but in the night; that if the Government found his Lodgings, they would find him amidst his Books and Papers, for says he, *he is always a writing.* I asked *Hewet* how he came



to be intrusted by *F-rg-f-n*, and for what reason. He told me that it was his Uncle who got *F-rg-f-n* reconcil'd to the late King; and that they, mentioning his Uncle and himself, were the Persons who dispersed and sold his Books for him. And *F-rg-f-n* often order'd him to throw his Books into Noble-mens Houses. That this was one way by which *F-rg-f-n* serv'd the late King, that being a Man of Intrigue and Interest, several Persons made Terms by him with the late King, who would not trust any other Person. Having at this time this account of *F-rg-f-n*, and of other Affairs, as particularly the manner and way of conveying of Letters to and from *France* by the private Boat, which were deliver'd here by his Uncle *Holmes* and himself; the canting Names in which they were directed, being only known to them, he went on and told me, that he had both the *Cant* and *Key* to Colonel *Fountain's* Letters, as well as of the Superscription. He likewise promised to let me have one of the first Pamphlets that *F-rg-f-n* writ for the future; and if any were written before I came to Town, he would take care to send one down to me. I gave him a Note how to write to me, and took a Direction from him where to find him when I came to *London*. He had so great a confidence in me, as to secure himself in my Lodgings when

when his Name was in the Proclamation, &c.

The latter end of *November*, or the beginning of *December* following, I came to *Town*, and the very next day I went to see Mr. *Hewet*. I desired him to get me a private Lodging; he took me to a Barber's House in *King-street Bloomsbury*, and told me it was a private place, by reason there was a Back-door into *Kingsgate Street*, that look'd only upon Stables and Coach-houses. That the Landlord was a *Papist*, and that *F-rg-s-n* had lodg'd there a considerable time. The man of the House was very free to let me have the Lodging; and then asked Mr. *Hewet*, how the Gentleman did that lodg'd there before, to whom he so often came? I asked *Hewet* who that Gentleman was: He reply'd, it was Mr. *F-rg-s-n*, and that he took that Lodging for him; and also was employ'd to take private Lodgings for several other Persons who came from *France*. Being confirm'd by this Circumstance, that *Hewet* was really employ'd by *F-rg-s-n*, I was also desirous to be fully satisfy'd whether Mr. *Holmes* his Uncle, and himself, were really the Persons employ'd in receiving and delivering out the Letters as they came from *France* by the private Boat. To know the truth of this, I visited Mr. *Holmes*, with whom I came acquainted at Sir *William Par-kyns's* House, and who knew I was intrusted by



by Sir *William* in the Business of the \* *Descent* then intended, and of the *Toloun* Fleet's coming from *Brest*. We drank the Healths of the Commanders of that Fleet, and wish'd them a good Voyage. Mr. *Holmes* likewise knew that Sir *William* sent his Nephew *Hewet* to me, within two or three days after I came to Town, to consult with, and give me Authority to treat with, and perswade Mr. *Cr-v-n*, now L—d *Cr—n*, to accept of a Lieutenant Colonel's Command, who was my great Acquaintance, and a Neighbour to Sir *William* in *Warwickshire*. 'Tis true, I undertook the Business, that Sir *William* might not be jealous of me, but did not press the matter much to the Gentleman, that he might not engage. At this visit Mr. *Holmes* and I went to the Bear-Tavern in *Holborn*, where we took a Glas together: I daily drank with him, and others, at that Tavern, and very often alone. By this means I soon was very intimate with him, and shew'd him a Letter which I purpos'd to have sent to the Duke of *Berwick*, with whom I was acquainted, to beg the Favour of his Grace to intercede with the King to grant me leave to come into *France*. I desired Mr. *Holmes's*

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\* I was confirm'd in the Business of the Descent from Mr. *Holmes*, who also acquainted me with that Matter.

pinion of the Letter, and how I might send it to the Duke. He corrected the Letter for me, and told me that he would send it to *France*. Some time after I press'd him again to send my Letter, it being fairly written: he then told me, we might in a little time see my Friend in *England*; and if the *Descent* which was intended should fail, he would then send it to *France*. I acquainted *Hewet* that I had shew'd his Uncle *Holmes* a Letter, which I design'd to send to the Duke of *Berwick*, and the Answer I receiv'd from him. *Hewet* reply'd, his Uncle was in the right, for a *Descent* would certainly be; but if I would have the Letter sent, he would put it into the Packet, and direct it in the *Courier* himself. Now being satisfy'd of the truth of these two Persons did convey the Letter to and from *France*; and finding that I had receiv'd from him relating to the *Affairs* was true, I set a great value on him, and daily entertain'd him at my house, and often supply'd him with Money. By my caressing of him in this manner, I knew what Company *F-r-g-f-n* used, and at what Taverns he drank, and upon what Subjects he was a writing, &c

It must here be observed, that I never exactly knew where *F-r-g-f-n* lodg'd, neither indeed did I press to know, lest it might bring me under suspicion, greater Affairs being at this time



time in agitation. In *December*, or the beginning of *January* 1695. Mr. *Hewet* brought me a book written by *F-rg-f-n*, relating to the *Scots East-India Company*; and acquainted me that he was then upon an extraordinary piece of Work, and so soon as it came out, I should have one. In *Jan.* 1695. Mr. *Adamson* a Watch-maker in *Holborn*, a Papist, and since dead, with whom I dined, told me, that *F-rg-f-n*, was writing a very sharp Book; that one Capt. *V-rn-tti* (who was accused for the Murder of Sir *Edmond-Bury Godfrey*) Mr. *F-rg-f-n*'s great Companion, had promised him one of the Books so soon as they were printed: and accordingly Capt. *V-rn-tti* did afterwards, as Mr. *Adamson* inform'd me, give him one of *F-rg-f-n*'s *Depredation* Books. This still confirm'd me to believe what *Hewet* had before told me of the said Book. I acquainted Mr. *Hewet* with what Capt. *V-rn-tti* had told Mr. *Adamson*, he reply'd, it was true, and that Capt. *V-rn-tti* was the other Person, besides himself, that Mr. *F-rg-f-n* confided in. By the way, if one is to judg of a Man by the company he keeps, he may presume to say Mr. *F-rg-f-n* is of the *Red Letter stamp*, his Confidants, and the Persons he most intrusts being of that *Perswasion*; and I have been inform'd he has now a Son in *Genoa* who is a *Priest*. *Hewet* assured me that I should have one of the first of the *Depredation* Books

Books that was printed off, for he was to sell them to make Money for *F-rg-f-n*; and that his Uncle *Holmes* and he were allow'd some Books for their trouble in disposing of them. The truth of this I did not doubt, by reason I receiv'd a little before a List of what Ships were lost and taken in the War from Mr. *Holmes*, and he had several to dispose of, and I suppose *F-rg-f-n* writ that. Within a few days after this, as I was walking with Mr. *Hewet*, he parted with me in *Drury-lane*, and then told me he was going to *F-rg-f-n*, and if any of the Books were printed, he would bring me one, if I would meet him in half an hour at the *Nags-head* Tavern in *James-street Covent-Garden*. According to his Promise he came, and brought with him one of the *Depredation* Books, which he said was written by Mr. *F-rg-f-n*, and that he just then receiv'd it from him, and it was corrected by him; I paid him half a Crown, tho the price they were sold at was but eighteen Pence; which I thought hard, having the same day paid twenty Shillings to a Taylor for *Hewet's* use.

The said *Hewet* sold many of the Books, and gave some away by Mr. *F-rg-f-n's* order; and some of the Books, as *Hewet* told me, were sent to his Uncle *Holmes's* House, and by him sold and dispersed.

Whilst



Whilst these Books were selling, Mr *F-rg-f-n* being sharp, press'd *Hewet* for the Money. Upon his making complaint to me, I gave *Hewet* three or four Shillings to make up his Account with *F-rg-f-n*, and in return he gave me another Book. The dispersing and selling these Books was about the latter part of *January*, and the beginning of *February* 1695. I went with *Hewet* once into *St. Martins lane*, when he carried a Book, as he told me, to one Mr. *M-rr-y* a Scots man, and a Tutor to the Lord *Kinnoule* a Papist: He acquainted me that *M-rr-y* assisted *F-rg-f-n* with Money to print his Books. So that *Hewet* knew not only the Author, but also the Printer, and the Persons who assisted him with Money. He often told me that he had been a long time imploy'd in selling and dispersing Libels, and that he, with one *Canning* a Bookseller, dispers'd the late King's *Declarations*. Here are sufficient Reasons to believe *F-rg-f-n* to be the Author and Publisher of the many Infamous Libels before-mention'd, and proof sufficient that *Hewet* was the disperser of them.

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*A short Account of what I have received from Mr. J. H. Nephew to Major Holmes, and to Mr. Holmes.*

1. **H**ewet told me, that he knew the Persons in the Proclamation, *viz.* Sir George Barclay, Major Holmes, Chernock, Chambers, Boyse, Knightly, Porter, Blair, &c. that he was employ'd to appoint meetings at Taverns, *viz.* at the *Nags-head* Tavern in *Covent-Garden*, &c. and frequently waited on Sir George Barclay, who was made a Major General, and to be principal Commander in the Assassination.

2. That he carried the Letters which came from *France* by the private Boat, and delivered the same to the L— Arr—, Lord Ailsbury, Sir William Parkyns, Capt. Chernock, Sir John Friend, Capt. N—le, &c.

3. On Sunday the 5th of January 95. Hewet desir'd me to go with him from my Lodgings in *White-Hall* to *St. James's*, to see what number of Guards attended the King. He took the number then, being about thirty, and said,  
one



one of his Uncle Major *Holmes's* Instructions was, when he came from *France*, to know how the King was attended when he went abroad, intimating then the *Design* upon the King. That Major *Holmes* brought over Commissions, and he had seen Sir *William Parkyns's* Commission for a Regiment, and that Sir *John Friend* was made a Colonel.

4. He told me, that he was at several Consultations when the Assassination was treated on, and knew of the Orders which were sent from *France* on that account, and the number of the Persons that were engaged in that horrid Design.

5. *Hewet* told me of the provision of Horses and Arms which were to have been employ'd in executing that Execrable Design of assassinating the King: that he was present with Major *Holmes* and *Chernock* when they went to buy Horses; I was with *Hewet* when he went to buy Saddles and Swords for that use on the 11th of *Februrary* 1695.

6. He told me the place where the Persons were to quarter, in order to execute their barbarous Design upon the King, viz at or near to *Turnham-green*.

7. He

7. He told me that he carried out Tickets for quartering several of the Conspirators; and also carried Pistols to several of the Assassimators, and that they were to be made use of for that end.

8. *Hewet* inform'd me on *Saturday*, the 22<sup>d</sup> of *February* 1695. that his Uncle *Holmes* called him up in the night to summon the Conspirators to be ready, upon the Intelligence they expected from *Chambers*, their Spy at *Kensington*, of the King's going out to hunt. He further told me, that some of the Persons who were engag'd in the Assassination, were absent that night from their Lodgings, being the 21<sup>st</sup> of *February* 95. which was one reason the Conspirators did not go out, and that they had receiv'd Intelligence the King would not hunt that day: and assur'd me, if the Party had stirr'd out, he would have given me notice according to his promise.

9. That *Chambers* was particularly employ'd to give Intelligence from *Kensington*. *Hewet* told me, that he supposed the *Tuesday* following would be the day.

10. *Hewet* inform'd me, that several of the Conspirators were allow'd five Guineas per Month; and Major *Holmes* his Uncle, and  
M Sir



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Sir *George Barclay* disposed of the late King's Money here ; and they bought up Horses ; and that he had receiv'd but one Guinea from them.

11. *Hewet* told me it was debated by some of the Assassins, Whether he should be one of their Number ? and it was agreed he should be one, and said, It was no Sin to kill the P. of O.

12. *Hewet* declared to me, that he was to be a *Cornet* to Sir *William Parkyns* ; and he knew of several that did assist with Horse and Arms, and contribute Money. Particularly one Captain *Cr—pps* did deposite between two and three hundred Pounds into Sir *William Parkyns's* hands ; and that the said *Cr—pps* was to be a Captain in Sir *William Parkyns's* Regiment.

13. *Hewet* attended *F-rg-f-n*, and declared to me that *F-rg-f-n* knew of the Design upon the King's Life ; and that *F-rg-f-n* declared he would mount himself to meet the late King at his Landing, &c.

14. The said *Hewet* went with a Present of two *French* counterfeit Pearl Necklaces, from his Uncle Major *Holmes* to Mr. *Roettier* in the *Tower*, together with a Message from his said  
Uncle

Uncle to Mr. *Roettier*, to bring or send to him some *Deys* from the *Tower*, to be sent to *France* to the late King, to coin some Mill'd Money to pay his Army with when he landed in *England*. And the said *Hewet* told me that the said *Roettier* would bring to his Uncle some \* *Deys* to be sent to *France*: this was about the 10th or 11th of *January* 95.

Sir, I will trouble you no more at this time, by reason I fear I have too much trespass'd on your Patience: *I have given you matter of Fact, which is convincing*; that you may see what I have received from him was never publish'd in any *Coffee-House* Papers. It had been impossible for Mr. *Hewet* to have discover'd them to me from time to time, as that horrid Plot was in *Agitation*, or to have guess'd particulars, unless he had been intrusted and privy to the deepest Secrets. Not one of the King's Evidence have as yet made a more ample Discovery than is contained in the aforesaid Accounts; by which it is *apparent* he was particularly imploy'd and intrusted by his two Uncles, Major *Holmes*, and Mr. *Holmes*,

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\* Note, that a *Business* of this nature was charged upon Mr. *Roettier*, to be near the time I gave in the account of the *Deys*, which was examined in *Parliament* above a year after.



and also Sir George Barclay and Sir William Parkyns, &c. otherwise he could never have been Master of so great Secrets. I will give you an undeniable instance that Sir William Parkyns confided in *Hewet*. Immediately after the Plot broke out, and that Sir William hid, he came to *Hewet*, and gave him twenty Guineas, and a Letter for him to carry into the Country to his Lady. And when *Hewet* was seized, I remember a Letter was found in his Pocket from the Lady Parkyns to Sir William. *Hewet* acquainted me with his Commission, and shewed me the Gold he was to give my Lady. Moreover, *Hewet* was at many of their Consultations, and was imploy'd by the Conspirators to appoint Meetings for several of that *Infernal Crew*, to meet and consult upon the Methods to put in execution their hellish intended Design. And some of the Conspirators at their Execution have declared themselves to this effect, to endeavour to clear the rest of the *Jacobite Faction* from the aspersions of being thought privy to that horrid Design of assassinating the King, viz. *That no one knew of it, but such persons who were actually engag'd to put the same in Execution.* This is an extraordinary circumstance to believe that Mr. J. H. was one of the Conspirators, and therefore able to give me a clear insight into those *Grand Affairs*, which I daily receiv'd from others

thers in *obscure terms*. Now I suppose you will object.

I. *Objection*. Since you are satisfied of the truth of Mr. *Hewet's* being intrusted and imploy'd by Mr. *F-rg-s-n*, by his giving you an account of several Libels which *F-rg-s-n* had written, and upon what Subject he was a writing; and being confirm'd in that matter by *J. H.* bringing you a Pamphlet intitul'd the *Depredation Book*, as he receiv'd it from *F-rg-s-n's* own hand: Why did you not then, being imploy'd by the Government to make Discoveries, give a speedy Account of the said Book to a Secretary of State?

*Answer*. I gave notice to a Secretary of State, that I had entered into an acquaintance with one that attended *F-rg-s-n*, who was writing a scurrilous Pamphlet against the Government; and that so soon as it was printed, I should have one, and I would send it to him. The very next day after I received the Pamphlet called the *Depredation Book* from Mr. *J. H.* I sent it sealed up in a Cover, with a Letter to the Secretary; and in that Letter I mentioned, I have herewith sent a Pamphlet written by *Uncle*, as the Party call him, that is *F-rg-son*. I refer for confirmation to my Original Letters now in the *Lords House*, lodg'd there in the Month of *January 1696*. or to my *Memoirs*,



*moirs*, which contain exact Copies of those Letters. *Vid.* pag. 92.

2. *Object.* When Mr. *Ferguson* and *Hewet* were both in Custody after the Discovery of the Plot: Why did not you then confront *H.* and *F.* both together, and put such Questions to them as concern'd the said Book?

*Answer.* Within a day or two after *Ferguson* was in Custody, I went to the Secretaries Office, and desired to confront them both together; and writ a Letter to that effect, and sent it in to the principal Clerk of the Office. I receiv'd no Commands in that Affair. *Vid.* Copy of that Letter in my *Memoirs*, in the Month of *March* 1695.

3. *Object.* Why did not you give in the aforesaid Accounts relating to the Plot, into the Secretary's Office from time to time, as you receiv'd them from *Hewet* and others, whilst the Plot was in *Agitation*?

*Answer.* I gave in the aforesaid Accounts to a Minister in the Government from time to time, as they came to my knowledg, during the time that most execrable Plot was in *agitation*. *Vid.* the original Letters now in the *Lords House*, or in my *Memoirs*.

4. *Object.*

4. *Object.* When *Hewet* was in Custody, why did not you confront him, and put in Interrogatories to examine him upon?

*Answer.* I did confront the said *Hewet*, and drew up Interrogatories to examine him, and charg'd them upon him. *Vid.* the Interr. in my Memoirs in the Month of *March 1695*.

Sir, if you have any thing more to object, or desire to have a particular account of what I receiv'd from Sir *William Parkyns*, *Chernock*, *Holmes*, *Lea* the late King's Messenger, *Capt. Stow*, and others, I refer you to my *Memoirs*, which I hope will give you full satisfaction. For therein you will find that I have not been wanting in any part of a good Intelligencer: And that I have not put the Government to any considerable expence, having received but eighty pound from the D— of S—, and they have now Arms lodg'd in the *Tower*, which were seized purely by my *Discovery*, of a far greater value. I give you this *Hint*, by which you may judg, that I must have run my self in debt in this service, since I have receiv'd so little. It is true I had a *Quarterly allowance* settled, and a promise made, that not only my *Expences* should be defray'd, but my self well rewarded and settled for the future. How well that



that has been perform'd, I presume you are not unsensible. I am,

**S I R,**

**Your most Humble Servant, &c.**

**Feb. 169<sup>c</sup>.**

**T H E E N D.**

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**E R R A T A.**

**P**Ag. 63. lin. 15. read *Hertfordshire*. P. 84. l. ult. r. *Jan. 13.*  
 95. P. 132. l. 15. for *per r. pro.* P. 155. l. 8. r. *given in.*  
 P. 3. of the *Character*, l. 14. r. *Character.*

REMARKS  
UPON THE  
D--- of S----'s LETTER  
TO THE  
House of LORDS,

Concerning Capt. SMYTH.

Being a *Vindication* of his SERVICES  
from the Imputations therein laid upon them.

With the D---'s Letter at large.

*To which is added,*

A LIST of those Persons to whom War-  
rants were granted to stay in *England*, pur-  
suant to a late Act of Parliament.

---

By MATTHEW SMYTH of the  
*Inner-Temple Esq;*

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—*Utcunq; ferant ea facta minores,*  
*Vicit amor Patriæ.* ————*Virg.*

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L O N D O N;

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*Westminster.*